Foreign
Broadcast
Information
Service
50
ANNIVERSARY
1941 - 1991

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-91-025
Wednesday
6 February 1991

Daily Report
East Asia

FBIS-EAS-91-025 CONTENTS *6 February 1991*

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Ali Alatas on Continuation of Cambodian Peace Bid *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 4 Feb]* 1
  Wants Next SNC Meet in Jakarta *[Bangkok TV]* 1

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Tokyo Strongly Opposes Nuclear Arms Use in Gulf *[KYODO]* 2
KYODO on Allocation of Loans to Mideast Nations 2
'Stiff Opposition' to Dispatch of ASDF Planes *[KYODO]* 2
Defense Head on Terrorist Threat to Gulf Refugees *[KYODO]* 3
Gorbachev 'Package' To Address Islands Dispute *[KYODO]* 3
Kadena Air Base Said Dumping Detergents in River *[OKINAWA TIMES 16 Feb]* 4
Semiconductor Trade Talks With U.S. Set for Feb *[KYODO]* 4
Police Arrest 4 More Chinese for Illegal Entry *[KYODO]* 4
Official Urges More Humanitarian Aid to Vietnam *[KYODO]* 4
Tokyo Governor To Seek Fourth Successive Term *[KYODO]* 5
  Komeito, DSP Back TV Journalist *[KYODO]* 5
  KYODO Previews Election 6

North Korea

KCNA Examines South's Comments on Gulf War 6
Reunification Group Denounces South's Gulf Policy *[KCNA]* 7
ROK General's Appointment as MAC Member Viewed *[Pyongyang Radio]* 7
South's UN 'Unilateral Entry' Plan Criticized *[KCNA]* 7
No Tae-u Regime Becoming 'Military Fascist Rule' *[KCNA]* 7
'Injustices and Swindle' of South Elections Cited *[KCNA]* 8
North Sends Telephone Message to South Red Cross *[Pyongyang Radio]* 8
'Team Spirit' Exercise Called 'Preliminary War' *[Pyongyang Radio]* 8
  South's 'Provocations' Criticized *[KCNA]* 10
South Denounced for Interference in Japan Talks *[Pyongyang Radio]* 10
Reportage on Yon Hyong-muk's Visit to Malaysia 11
  Malaysian Minister Sends Gift *[KCNA]* 11
  Arrives 4 Feb *[Pyongyang Radio]* 11
  Conveys Kim Il-song Letter *[KCNA]* 12
  Malaysian Premier Hosts Reception *[KCNA]* 12
Development of South-South Cooperation Viewed *[KCNA]* 13
Armed Forces Minister Receives Soviet Ambassador *[Pyongyang Radio]* 13
Report of Philippine Guerrilla Training Denied *[KCNA]* 13
Economic Joint Committee With Germany Established *[KCNA]* 13
Daily Carries Memoirs of Ecuadoran Visitor *[KCNA]* 13
Greetings Message Sent to Malta Labor Party *[KCNA]* 14
Message Sent to Mexico's Socialist People's Party *[KCNA]* 14
Paek Hong-ki Appointed Ambassador to Benin *[KCNA]* 15

Compilation of KCNA Press Reviews Published 15
    For 31 January 15
    For 1 February 16
    For 2 February 17
    For 4 February 18
    For 5 February 19
    For 6 February 19
Various Companies Overfulfill January Targets *[KCNA]* 20

South Korea

Committee Approves Gulf Transports, USSR Loan *[YONHAP]* 21
Chinese Merchants Offer To Resell Rice to North *[YONHAP]* 21
Companies Seek To Introduce Goods to North *[YONHAP]* 21
Lawmakers Express Desire To Visit Pyongyang *[CHOSON ILBO 3 Feb]* 22
North-South Cultural Exchange Center Considered *[THE KOREA TIMES 29 Jan]* 22
Democratic Party Criticizes Housing Scandal *[YONHAP]* 22
    Probe Into Scandal Urged *[YONHAP]* 23
Justice Minister Comments on Human Rights Report *[YONHAP]* 23
Opposition Fears U.S. Backlash Due to Soviet Aid *[THE KOREA TIMES 26 Jan]* 24
DLP's Kim Yong-sam Discusses Various Issues *[YONHAP]* 24
Five-Year, $2.18 Billion Industrial Plan Revealed *[YONHAP]* 25
Trade With Vietnam, China, East Europe Proposed 25
    Considered 'Key Areas' *[YONHAP]* 25
    Ties Proposed With Vietnam *[Seoul Radio]* 26
    Trade With East Europe Planned *[YONHAP]* 26
    Research With USSR Pursued *[YONHAP]* 26
    Need To Integrate EC Stressed *[YONHAP]* 27
'Red Tape' Reportedly Slows Overseas Investment *[YONHAP]* 27
Hyundai Asks Government Approval for Soviet Crews *[CHOSON ILBO 4 Feb]* 28
Further Coverage of Visiting Economist's Comments 28
    'Optimistic' About Soviet Reform *[THE KOREA HERALD 6 Feb]* 28
    Assesses 'Failed' Reforms *[YONHAP]* 28

SOUTHEAST ASIA

BRUNEI, MALAYSIA & SINGAPORE

Malaysia

Police Tighten Security in Diplomatic Quarter *[AFP]* 30
Government Supports Pakistani Gulf Peace Proposal *[Islamabad Radio]* 30
Party Calls on Thai Muslims 'To Fight for Iraq' *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 6 Feb]* 30
Minister: ASEAN Endorses New Economic Grouping *[BERNAMA]* 31
    Mahathir 'Aware' of U.S. Opposition *[BERNAMA]* 31
Radio Views Aid for SRV Economic Reconstruction *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 31

Singapore

Deputy Premier on Ties With Malaysian Leaders *[THE SUNDAY TIMES 3 Feb]* 32

Cambodia

Sihanouk Condemns Phnom Penh's Election Plan *[AFP]* 33
Sihanouk Backs Ranariddh in Face of Party Split *[AFP]* 33
Ieng Muli Says KPNLF Ready To Attend Talks *[Radio VOK]* 33
'Genuine' SRV Regiment 'Hiding' in Battambang *[Radio VONADK]* 34
SPK: 100 Enemy Troops 'Put Out of Action' 34
Commentary on SOC Goodwill Toward Peace Effort *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 34
Editorial: 'Reaching a Genuine Political Solution' *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 35

Indonesia

Suharto Wants Continued Monitoring of Gulf War *[Jakarta Radio]* 36
Daily Says Country Not Target of Terrorism *[Jakarta Radio]* 36
Alatas Returns From Bangkok, Hanoi; Views Talks *[Jakarta Radio]* 36
    AFP Reports Further 36
SRV Official Views Bilateral, Cambodian Issues *[MERDEKA 28 Jan]* 37
Use of PRC Rocket To Launch Satellite Viewed *[ANTARA]* 37
Air Transport Agreement Signed With PRC 31 Jan *[Jakarta Radio]* 38
Radio on Significance of Trade Ties With DPRK *[Jakarta Radio]* 38

Laos

Phoumi Vongvichit Attends LFNC Opening Session *[Vientiane Radio]* 38
Meeting Held on U.S.-Lao Development Program *[KPL]* 39
Defense Minister Receives Greetings From Poland *[Vientiane Radio]* 39

Philippines

Aquino Discusses Next Round of U.S. Bases Talks *[Quezon City Radio]* 39
    Tightens Security for Armitage Visit *[Quezon City Radio]* 39
Biazon: Military Alert for 'Terrorist Activities' *[Quezon City Radio]* 39
Military, Communist Rebels Unable To Launch Coup *[Manila Radio]* 40
Stability Situation Restrains Japanese Investors *[BUSINESS WORLD 6 Feb]* 40
Military Rebels Purugganan, Batac Captured *[Manila Radio]* 40
Case Against Honasan, Others Formally Filed *[Quezon City Radio]* 41
Court Martial Clears Rebels; Suspects Listed *[Quezon City Radio]* 41
Aquino: No Peso Devaluation, Depreciation *[Manila Radio]* 42
Senate President Views Relations With Malacanang *[Manila Radio]* 42
Oscar Orbos Free To Shake Up Executive Office *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 5 Feb]* 42
Reform of Executive Secretary's Role Viewed *[THE MANILA CHRONICLE 6 Feb]* 43

Thailand

Deportation of 3 Arabs 'Precautionary Measure' *[THE NATION 6 Feb]* 45
Muslims Donate Money To Support Iraq in Gulf War *[NAEO NA 6 Feb]* 45
Chatchai on Upcoming Talks With Khmer Factions *[Bangkok Radio]* 45
Commerce Official Views 'Deadlock' of GATT Talks *[MATICHON 4 Feb]* 46
Supreme Commander Sunthon Meets U.S. Ambassador *[Bangkok TV]* 47
Chief of Staff: Thai-Lao Border Disputes Remain *[THE NATION 6 Feb]* 47
Chatchai Reacts To Assassination Rumors in Press *[THE NATION 6 Feb]* 47
Paper Speculates on Future Prime Minister *[THE NATION 2 Feb]* 47
Army Commander Suchinda Interview, Part Two *[THE NATION 2 Feb]* 48

Vietnam

Government Reviews Trade Talks With USSR *[Hanoi Radio]* 50
Commentary on Efforts To End Gulf War *[Hanoi International]* 50
NHAN DAN on International Relations in 1990 *[Hanoi Radio]* 51
Bui Phan Ky on Seventh Party Congress Documents *[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 22 Jan]* 52
Second Military Region Party Committee Meets *[Hanoi Radio]* 53
QUAN DOI NHAN DAN on Party's Goal *[Hanoi Radio]* 54
Nguyen Van Linh Visits Ba Son Naval Shipyard *[Hanoi Radio]* 54
New War Veterans Journal Previewed *[Hanoi Radio]* 55
Scientific Cooperation Meeting With Laos Held *[VNA]* 56
Australian Envoy Comments on Bilateral Relations *[Hanoi Radio]* 56
UN Official Comments on Vietnamese Refugees *[VNA]* 56
Vo Nguyen Giap Attends Ho Chi Minh Day in India *[Hanoi Radio]* 57
Leaders Send Greetings to Tanzanian Counterparts *[Hanoi Radio]* 57

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Hawke Discusses Gulf War, Papua New Guinea *[Melbourne International]* 58
Hawke: Response to Gulf War 'Proportionate' *[Melbourne International]* 58
Hawke's Popularity, Support for War Increasing *[AFP]* 58
Government To Relax S. Africa Visa Restrictions *[AFP]* 59

Ali Alatas on Continuation of Cambodian Peace Bid

BK0402005591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 4 Feb 91 P 3

[Text] Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas yesterday expressed hope that the Cambodian peace process would not be disrupted by the Gulf war, but conceded the world's governments "are very preoccupied with the crisis."

Indonesia and France co-chair the International Conference on Cambodia which will reconvene when all the Cambodian factions and other parties agree to a peace plan drawn up by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council last year.

Speaking to reporters after arriving in Bangkok from Vietnam last night, Mr Alatas said he understood that "various sides want us to continue with our efforts to try to bring the peace process closer to resumption."

Amid indications that Vietnam still resists key aspects of the UN peace plan for Cambodia, the Indonesian Foreign Minister played down suggestion that the recent visit by his delegation failed to convince Vietnam to embrace the plan.

"There's no negotiations so there's no failure or success. The purpose of our trip to Hanoi and Bangkok is to present formally the draft agreements, to explain them to the two governments, to hear whatever comments the governments have on the text, whatever possible misigivings they have and then give an explanation," Mr Alatas said.

The delegation comprised Mr Alatas, French Deputy Foreign Minister Edwige Avice, and a special envoy for UN Secretary General Rafeeuddin Ahmad. All will hold talks with Thai Government officials today.

"We made progress," he insisted but added, "there are remaining questions to be resolved but we knew about them and we think that our explanations were relevant." He said Vietnam appreciated the explanations given by the two co-chairmen, and "reaffirmed" its willingness to support their efforts to achieve a comprehensive, political settlement to the Cambodian conflict. "I think this is positive," Mr Alatas said.

For the next step in the peace process, France and Indonesia would work out the next meeting between them and members of the Supreme National Council, a body of Khmer representatives set up in line with the UN peace plan last September.

The framework of the UN peace plan envisaged the United Nations taking sweeping administrative power in Cambodia in the period leading up to democratic elections.

Wants Next SNC Meet in Jakarta

BK0502144691 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said that the meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia should be held in Jakarta, Indonesia, soon. He granted an interview at Don Muang Airport before returning to Indonesia this morning. He said that the next SNC meeting should be held in Jakarta since the last meeting was held in France. Asked about the possibility of the four Cambodian factions attending the meeting, Alatas said he believed the three resistance factions would attend the meeting judging from the talks he had with them yesterday at the Indonesian Embassy in Thailand.

Meanwhile, sources disclosed that Nguyen Co Thach had been asked to confer with Hun Sen, leader of the Cambodian Government in Phnom Penh, on the SNC meeting which should be held as soon as possible as attention has shifted away from the Cambodian problem because the world powers are preoccupied with the situation in the Persian Gulf.

Japan

Tokyo Strongly Opposes Nuclear Arms Use in Gulf

OW0502151191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1434 GMT 5 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 5 KYODO—Japan, the only nation in the world to experience a nuclear attack, on Tuesday urged nations engaged in the Persian Gulf war not to use nuclear weapons.

"Japan strongly hopes that nuclear weapons will not be used in the (Gulf) hostilities," Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama told a parliamentary session. While noting that the U.N. Security Council has not issued any resolutions or statements restricting nuclear or chemical warfare, Nakayama said he would like to ask nations involved in the Gulf war not to use such weapons. Nakayama made the comment at the day's session of the House of Representatives Budget Committee in response to Nobuaki Futami of the lay Buddhist-backed Komeito, the second-largest opposition party. Futami urged the government to strongly request the United States not to use nuclear weapons under any circumstances.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, responding to the same question, said that he would like to use all possible routes to express Japan's opposition to the use of atomic weapons. "But more than that ... Iraq has not shown any regrets for invading Kuwait," he said, adding that he was overcome by very "painful and dark feelings" as he listened to the question.

In 1945 Japan became the first country to be attacked with nuclear weapons when the U.S. atom-bombed the industrial cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which were major manufacturing centers for armaments.

Over the weekend, U.S. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney said in a television interview that the United States had been correct to launch the World War II atomic bomb attacks. Asked about the feasibility of using tactical nuclear weapons in the Persian Gulf, Cheney responded, "That's clearly not the situation we're faced with here." In a separate interview, however, Cheney warned that an Iraqi chemical attack on Israel could unleash a response by "unconventional weapons." Israel is widely believed to have nuclear weapons capacity, though it denies the speculation.

Asked Monday whether the use of nuclear warfare would affect Japan's funding of the war, Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto dismissed the question as being too hypothetical. Japan has pledged 11 billion dollars to assist U.S.-led multinational forces in nonlethal areas such as food and transport.

KYODO on Allocation of Loans to Mideast Nations

OW0502153291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1502 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 5 KYODO—The Japanese Government announced Tuesday it will allocate 1.03 billion dollars worth of commodity loans it pledged in September for "frontline" countries hurt by United Nations-imposed sanctions on Iraq.

The figure is roughly half of the 2 billion dollars aid Japan promised to several Middle East countries following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in early August.

Jordan will receive 450 million dollars, Turkey 400 million dollars and Egypt 180 million dollars worth of low-interest commodity loans payable over a 30-year period. The loans, with a 10-year grace period, carry an interest rate of 1 percent per annum.

With the decision, financial aid allocated to Jordan and Turkey totals 700 million dollars each. Aid to Egypt will amount to 600 million dollars.

'Stiff Opposition' to Dispatch of ASDF Planes

OW0502135291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1244 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 5 (KYODO)—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu won Washington's acceptance on Tuesday of his decision to restrict Japanese funds for the allied war effort to noncombat expenditures, but came under mounting pressure at home to abandon his plan to send military transport planes to the Middle East to evacuate refugees.

The stiff opposition to the dispatch of the Air Self-Defense Force [ASDF] aircraft could delay parliamentary debate on the 9 billion dollars in additional funds pledged to the U.S.-led multinational forces in the Persian Gulf, political analysts said.

Kaifu, boosted by a U.S. State Department statement that restrictions on the funds will not pose a problem, told parliament that the money would be used only for transport, living costs, food, and medical and administrative services, not to buy weapons or ammunition. "I will inform the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] that our policy dictates the contribution should be spent only on these items," Kaifu told the House of Representatives budget committee.

The secretary general of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council and the Japanese ambassador to Saudi Arabia are overseeing the disbursement of the Japanese money already being funneled to the GCC's gulf peace fund, established by Japan last fall.

Opposition members, in sometimes angry exchanges, accused the government of illegally bypassing the Diet, the country's supreme state organ, in its establishment of a new ordinance enabling ASDF planes to carry refugees. The opposition contended that the SDF law must be revised if the government wants to send SDF planes abroad, noting that the country's war-renouncing Constitution bans Japan from resorting to force in settling international disputes and that the existing law does not assign any overseas mission to the SDF. Former Prime

Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone once remarked, an opposition questioner argued, that SDF planes could not be used to evacuate Japanese stranded in Iran without revising the SDF law.

Yuzuru Shimasaki of the Social Democratic Party of Japan, renamed from the Japan Socialist Party, said that the government's interpretation that the planes can be dispatched abroad through issuing the new ordinance is illegal.

The government issued the ordinance January 29, saying it was acting under an article of the SDF law that says military aircraft may be used to transport state guests, the prime minister, or other persons designated by government ordinance.

Atsuo Kudo, head of the Cabinet Legislative Bureau, said the new ordinance is legal, calling the sending of the military planes to the Middle East a provisional measure only for the transportation of refugees and evacuees from the Persian Gulf war. The SDF law's Article 100-5, which allows military aircraft to transport state guests, the prime minister and others, was not necessarily intended to apply only to VIPs, Kudo said.

The government legal expert told the budget committee session that the scope of those to be transported by SDF planes should be decided to meet the needs of the state. The state of Japan has found it necessary to transport the refugees, he said. With the opposition camp dissatisfied, the government has agreed to submit a new position paper later on the sending of military planes abroad on the basis of the new government ordinance.

Meanwhile, toward the close of Tuesday's budget committee session, opposition parliamentarians huddled around the budget committee chairman for nearly 30 minutes insisting that the Diet should, as the legislature, issue its own interpretation on whether the government's new ordinance runs counter to the constitution. Kozo Watanabe, chairman of the committee, replied that the matter should be discussed later at a meeting of representatives of ruling and opposition parties.

Defense Head on Terrorist Threat to Gulf Refugees

OW0602112091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0959 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—Defense Agency Chief Yukihiko Ikeda on Wednesday cited terrorism as the leading danger facing refugees who may be evacuated from the Middle East on board Japanese Self-Defense Forces (SDF) planes.

"Our top concern in securing the safety of refugees is the possibility of terrorism and guerrilla attacks," Ikeda told the House of Representatives Budget Committee. Ikeda, state minister and Defense Agency director general, said, without being specific, the SDF would apply strict security measures to preempt such an attack.

Iraq's ambassador to Tokyo has said SDF planes could be subject to attack if they enter the theater of war, but Ikeda did not make it clear if he regarded SDF planes to be at greater risk than commercial aircraft. The plan to dispatch military aircraft on overseas relief missions for the first time since World War II has met strong public opposition and been hotly contested in the Diet. Opinion polls have consistently shown that over half of Japanese are against the plan to evacuate refugees from Jordan to Egypt on military planes.

In a bid to demonstrate that Japan can offer humanitarian assistance without violating a postwar taboo against sending the SDF abroad, private citizens have launched a campaign to raise money to charter commercial planes for relief missions. So far they have chartered one Boeing 727 from the Royal Jordanian Airline to fly from Amman to Cairo.

The government has already dispatched commercial planes to Egypt to help bring home Vietnamese and Thai refugees, but it maintains that SDF planes may be needed if private airlines are unable or unwilling to fly near the war zone.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told the Diet Wednesday that Japan will only dispatch the SDF planes upon request from international relief organizations.

Gorbachev 'Package' To Address Islands Dispute

OW0502150191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1420 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 5 (KYODO)—The territorial dispute between Japan and the Soviet Union will be addressed as part of a "package" Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev will bring with him on his visit to Japan in April, Soviet Presidential Spokesman Vitaliy Ignatenko said here Tuesday.

Ignatenko, who is in Japan to prepare for Gorbachev's visit, also told KYODO NEWS SERVICE in an interview that he is confident the two countries will eventually find a resolution to the dispute over a group of islands off Hokkaido seized by the Soviets at the end of World War II. "But there are no simple answers to difficult problems," the spokesman warned. He said Japan and the Soviet Union will only resolve their problems by moving closer to each other's positions.

Commenting on the content of the "package" now being put together in Moscow for Gorbachev's visit, Ignatenko said it encompasses a number of economic, political, international, social, and environmental proposals believed conducive to building a base for a "good-neighborly" and "open" bilateral relationship. He confirmed that it also would address the territorial dispute, but declined to elaborate.

Ignatenko said Gorbachev will not refuse to discuss the dispute when he meets with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu. He said that while Gorbachev hopes his visit will facilitate a resolution of the dispute, the visit would be "meaningless" if the territorial dispute were the only item on the agenda.

Ignatenko denied that the recent change in foreign ministers from Eduard Shevardnadze to Alexander Bessmertnykh has slowed down the preparations for Gorbachev's visit. "To the contrary, preparations have strengthened since foreign minister (Taro) Nakayama's visit to the Soviet Union," he said.

Nakayama visited Moscow last month and met with Bessmertnykh for the first time. Ignatenko confirmed that the new Soviet foreign minister will pay a visit to Japan before Gorbachev comes.

Kadena Air Base Said Dumping Detergents in River

OW0502022891 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 16 Feb 91 Morning Edition p 21

[Text] Kadena-cho—Residents here found a large volume of detergents flowing out of a drain at Yara, Kadena Air Base, around 1130 on 4 February, and reported this to the Kadena-cho Office. The office had its fire-fighting department conduct an inspection of the site and take samples. The detergents appeared to have been those used in cleaning aircraft, and had a stringent smell. The detergents, as foam, flowed into the Hijagawa River, which serves as a water resource for residents of the prefecture.

Near the drain at Yara is hardstanding for naval aircraft. The base has huge cleaning machines to wash such planes as F-15 fighters and KC-135 air-refueling tankers. Questioned about the matter by the town office, the Kadena Air Base Public Relations Office replied: "We are making inquiries with those concerned."

There is an oil separator on base, but the machine is in poor condition. The town office intends to analyze the detergent, and to file a demand with the base so that related facilities may be improved and control be enforced more thoroughly. The town office criticized the base's slack control, saying: "Water from the drain on the Kadena Air Base flows into a water intake point of the Hijagawa River. There is the possibility that harmful substances are in the detergent. This poses a major problem from the sanitation viewpoint."

Semiconductor Trade Talks With U.S. Set for Feb

OW0602053991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0439 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—Japan and the United States will hold negotiations in Washington later this month to forge a new framework for semiconductor trade, in advance of the upcoming expiration of the bilateral five-year chip pact in July, government sources said Wednesday.

The sources said the talks will focus on U.S. requests for Japan to extend the existing bilateral pact for another five years and to increase chip imports to 20 percent of Japanese consumption by the end of 1992.

The requests were made by Washington at the regular bilateral chip trade talks in Tokyo in late January in response to strong urging from the Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA), a U.S. industry trade group, and a computer-industry group called the Computer Systems Policy Project. Japan agreed to hold discussions over the new requests, but has been resisting the idea of setting a specific market-share target for foreign chips.

According to estimates by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), foreign chips represented 17.9 percent of the Japanese market in the third quarter last year, compared with 10.3 percent when the pact was introduced in September 1986.

Another study compiled by the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics (WSTS) showed that the foreign share of the Japanese chip market was 13.1 percent for the July-September quarter against 8.6 percent five years ago. The gap in the figures results from differences in the calculation formulas used.

However, Japan is expected to show flexibility toward the U.S. demands, if the U.S. Government accepts Japan's call for scrapping of the retaliatory duties, estimated at 160 million dollars at present, which Washington has charged since 1987 on personal computers, color television sets, and other Japanese products, according to the sources.

Police Arrest 4 More Chinese for Illegal Entry

OW0502183891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1509 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Nagasaki, Feb. 5 KYODO—Police found and arrested four more Chinese men near the seaside town of Nomozaki, Nagasaki Prefecture, on Tuesday night, bringing the number of Chinese suspected of illegally entering the country in search of work to 24.

Tuesday morning, police arrested 20 Chinese men in the town for illegally entering Japan after local residents reported finding a dilapidated fishing boat beached on a nearby shore. Investigations indicate the men, aged between 17 and 42, left Fujian Province last Friday. They were lightly clothed in jackets and jeans, police reported. The men, including farmers and welders, were placed under arrest at a local police station after they reportedly confessed to having entered Japan in order to find work.

Papers on several of the men, written in Japanese, suggest they planned to regroup at Nagasaki Station and take the Shinkansen "bullet train" from Fukuoka to Tokyo, said police, who suspect a labor broker in Japan may be involved.

Official Urges More Humanitarian Aid to Vietnam

OW0602111991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1045 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—Japan should extend more aid to Vietnam from a humanitarian viewpoint in light of that country's impending economic difficulties, a senior Foreign Ministry official said in published remarks made available Wednesday.

The remarks by Sakutaro Tanino, director general of the ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau, were contained in a transcript of a panel discussion printed in the February issue of GAIKO (DIPLOMACY) FORUM, a monthly magazine published under the auspices of the Foreign Ministry.

A Foreign Ministry source stressed, however, that Tanino did not mean to infer that Japan is reconsidering its policy of suspending economic assistance to Vietnam as a form of leverage to convince Hanoi to adopt a more accommodating position on the Cambodia question. They said such aid remains conditional on the signing of a comprehensive Cambodian peace accord.

Tanino drew attention to Vietnam's economic plight in the wake of the Soviet Union's cutoff of aid and scrapping of preferential trade terms on such commodities as petroleum products, steel, and fertilizers. "This is also a humanitarian problem, so I am sure there is something we can do in the way of assistance," Tanino said. "It is about time we work to secure peace and stability in the region by sending a warm breeze toward Vietnam," he said.

Although Japan suspended its vaguely-defined economic or development aid to Vietnam after the invasion of Cambodia in late 1978, it has continued extending cultural assistance and "humanitarian assistance" such as food, and disaster relief aid.

Foreign Ministry officials denied that Tanino was hinting at a blurring of the line drawn between humanitarian and economic aid that would allow for greater assistance to Hanoi. "We do not intend to use 'humanitarian' as an excuse to extend other types of aid," said one official, who also stressed that no reassessment of Japan's basic aid policy toward Vietnam is in the works. "We are aware that the Cambodian peace process is in a delicate and final stage and we do not want to send any wrong signals on this account," he said.

Tokyo Governor To Seek Fourth Successive Term

OW0502064291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0621 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 5 KYODO—Tokyo Governor Shunichi Suzuki said Tuesday that he will run for a fourth term in the metropolitan gubernatorial election to be held in April.

In a policy address to the Metropolitan Assembly, Suzuki said he decided to run for the election to defend Tokyo's "autonomy." The governor has the support of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) groups in the Metropolitan Assembly. The national headquarters of the LDP, DSP, and Komeito, however, which supported Suzuki in the previous gubernatorial election, have said they will not support him this time, citing his age.

Suzuki, 80, told the assembly that political parties, other various organizations, and civic groups have called on him to run for the upcoming election. The governor said he accepted their call for him to run for another four-year term.

Suzuki, in saying he will run for the election to defend the metropolitan autonomy, apparently implied that the headquarters of the ruling and opposition parties were trying to infringe on that autonomy by withdrawing their support of him. The governor said he has devoted himself to developing local autonomies, adding he will make every effort to enable the people of tokyo to enjoy a more affluent life.

Suzuki is a veteran bureaucrat-turned-politician who began his career in the former Ministry of Home Affairs. He began his first term as Tokyo governor in 1979 and has served three successive terms.

Komeito, DSP Back TV Journalist

OW0502152091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1450 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 5 KYODO—Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) have agreed to support popular television journalist Hisanori Isomura in April's Tokyo gubernatorial election, party sources said Tuesday. The Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) also is expected to join the coalition to unseat Shunichi Suzuki, the 80-year-old incumbent.

Suzuki, seeking his fourth term as Tokyo's municipal leader, has been under pressure by national party organizations to relinquish the post he has occupied for the past 12 years. The octogenarian, who officially declared his candidacy at a meeting of the municipal assembly earlier in the day, said he will run to maintain the "autonomy" of Tokyo.

Despite the lack of traditional support at the national level, Suzuki still commands the loyalty of LDP and DSP groups within the assembly.

DSP Chairman Keigo Ouchi will meet Isomura, the 61-year-old journalist with Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK), on Wednesday to ask him to enter the gubernatorial election. Ouchi and Komeito Chairman Koshiro Ishida are scheduled to meet Thursday to reconfirm their joint support for Isomura.

The LDP will likely join the coalition when LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa meets with his counterparts from the two opposition parties the same day, the sources said. Komeito and DSP leaders are hoping Isomura's name recognition will help him topple the incumbent, the sources said. Suzuki, a veteran bureaucrat from the defunct Interior Ministry, began his first term as Tokyo governor in 1979.

In a related development, the Social Democratic Party (SDP), renamed from the Japan Socialist Party, indicated Tuesday it would back Satsuki Eda, leader of the United Social Democratic Party (USDP), as its candidate in the gubernatorial campaign. SDP Secretary General Tsuruo Yamaguchi will meet his USDP counterpart Shogo Abe on Thursday to ask Eda to enter the race, SDP sources said.

KYODO Previews Election

OW0502110291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0817 GMT 5 Feb 91

[By Ian Mcarthur]

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 5 (KYODO)—Many of his former backers may have abandoned him because of his age, but Tokyo's 80-year-old Gov. Shunichi Suzuki's announcement Tuesday that he will run for a fourth term in municipal elections in April has thrown the cat among the pigeons in Liberal Democratic Party headquarters.

Suzuki sought, but did not get, the backing of LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa for another term in the city's top post. In the previous election, Suzuki had the backing of the LDP and two middle-of-the-road opposition parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP). But there were signs as early as December that the LDP might waver in its support when the party's powerful maker and breaker Ozawa indicated he considered Suzuki a liability because of his advanced age.

And when, in the closing days of January, all three of the parties announced at the party headquarters level that they were withdrawing their support, many of the wily governor's opponents expected him to throw in the towel. But Suzuki is a stayer. The trump card is the support he has garnered from the lower levels of the LDP and DSP.

Signs that Suzuki might not give up the fight began to emerge around last Thursday when the Tokyo chapter of the LDP announced it would throw its weight behind his candidacy despite the LDP national headquarters' decision to field an alternative candidate.

Suzuki's own philosophy is probably summed up by his recent "to advance is hell and to retreat is hell" statement, a Japanese version of the theme, "damned if I do and damned if I don't." Suzuki formally announced his decision to run at Tuesday's municipal assembly meeting. He served notice of his decision on Monday at a gathering of former LDP members of the assembly.

Despite the refusal by his former backers to throw their financial resources behind him, Suzuki remains confident he can win by running under the banner of the "Tominto," or municipal citizens' party.

The Tokyo-born Suzuki is a veteran bureaucrat-turned-politician. After graduating from the law department of the University of Tokyo in 1933, he embarked on a career in the former Home Ministry, the most powerful ministry in Japan before the war. He later rose to the posts of home affairs vice minister, vice governor of Tokyo, and secretary general of the Japan Exposition Association. He began his first term as Tokyo governor in 1979. Over three terms, he wiped out the huge deficit left by the previous governor, Ryokichi Minobe, and embarked on a policy of decentralizing Tokyo.

Within three years of assuming the governorship, Suzuki reversed the city's fortunes to the point where Tokyo, the hub of a metropolitan area with a population larger than Australia's, now boasts balanced budgets and an economy with the world's seventh-largest gross national product, bigger than Canada's.

Given the right international conditions, Suzuki can be credited with positioning Tokyo to become one of the world's major international metropolises by the end of the century, in the same league as 19th century London or 20th century New York. But despite this record, Suzuki's chances in the next election could be hampered by several factors.

One is the disunity and obvious lack of support at the top levels of the three major parties which previously backed him. Without their financial backing, Suzuki could be perceived by voters as a lame duck candidate.

Another is the hint of scandal over alleged irregularities in the contract awarded for construction of the new Tokyo municipal administrative headquarters, designed by the internationally renowned architect Kenzo Tange and now nearing completion on the western side of Shinjuku.

But Suzuki cannot be counted out of the race. His backers say that, with no real challenger in sight, he stands a good chance of winning yet again.

North Korea

KCNA Examines South's Comments on Gulf War

SK0602105691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppet Foreign Minister Monday drivelled that South Korea "is discharging its obligation matching its rising international position" in "supporting" the multinational forces in the Gulf war and it is also "important in the economic aspect" because South Korea may get "a stable oil supply and participate in rehabilitation" after the war, according to a radio report from Seoul.

This is a foolish jargon aimed at justifying the criminal acts in offering South Korean young people to the Gulf war started by the U.S. imperialists and squandering "national funds" scraped up from the people through taxes.

As for the "rising international position", it is a jargon let loose out of selfish consideration of the traitors that they can get greater support from their master, the U.S. imperialists, in realizing their anti-national design against the North, by taking an active part in the Gulf war.

When they talk about the "economic aspect", the South Korean authorities seek to get oil and dollars in reward for the blood shed by the young people who were offered as cannon fodder. It is also a notion which can be conceived only by the traitors.

The South Korean ruling group got nothing in the U.S. war of aggression in South Vietnam except the death of many South Korean young people in jungle. It, far from drawing a lesson from this, is now dreaming of getting something in the Gulf war, obeying to its master's demand.

Reunification Group Denounces South's Gulf Policy

SK0602043991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0416 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—The secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland Tuesday released information No. 581 denouncing the treacheries of the South Korean authorities in their full-scale moves to dispatch puppet troops to the battlefield of the Gulf war, yielding to the pressure of the U.S. imperialists.

The information says:

The South Korean authorities are stepping up in real earnest the moves to dispatch troops to the Gulf, yielding to the demand of the U.S. imperialists. This is a very grave development which indicates that the involvement of the South Korean authorities in the Gulf war is rapidly expanding into direct "participation in the war" from "aid" hitherto.

It further says:

The South Korean authorities, following the war provocation manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists, "donated" funds and sent a "military medical team" to the multinational forces and then decided to render additional "aid fund" and dispatch puppet air force transport planes and troops. This is a never-to-be-condoned treacherous act.

Such crime as driving out fellow countrymen to the fields of death and donating the blood taxes collected from the pockets of the people who are languishing at the bottom of destitution to the U.S. imperialists, their master, as war spendings can be committed only by a group of despicable traitors.

All the facts clearly prove that the South Korean ruling group is mean colonial stooges of the U.S. imperialists and despicable war henchmen who make no scruple of committing any shocking crime to meet the request of their American master.

History will never pardon this criminal act in driving out fellow countrymen to the fields of death, tailing behind the U.S. imperialists.

ROK General's Appointment as MAC Member Viewed

SK0602003291 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1500 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] According to a YONHAP report from Seoul, in the name of the so-called UN Command [UNC], the U.S. imperialists played the game of appointing a puppet armed forces general—who is the deputy chief of staff of the South Korean-U.S. Combined Forces Command—as senior member of the UNC side to the Military Armistice Commission [MAC]. As the senior member of the Korean People's Army/Chinese People's Volunteers side to the MAC has clearly expressed in our side's position, a South Korean puppet armed forces general has no qualifications to assume the post of the senior member of the UNC side to the MAC. Therefore, an appointment game of this sort, which no one will recognize, is totally invalid. An absurd attempt by the United States to appoint as the senior member of the UNC side to the MAC a man from the South Korean puppets, who were not a signatory to the Korean Armistice Agreement and who resolutely opposed the signing of this agreement from the very beginning, cannot be considered other than as a crime. This crime is intended for the United States to abandon its duty of implementing the Korean Armistice Agreement, and in the long run, to destroy this agreement itself. To veil the puppets, which are disdained by the world's people, with independence and to conceal its colors as an aggressor who opposes the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea, the United States has tried to place a puppet armed forces general in a plausible seat called the senior member of the UNC side. This is a futile attempt. The U.S. imperialists will be held fully responsible for all the consequences that may arise from such a foolish act.

South's UN 'Unilateral Entry' Plan Criticized

SK0602050391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—The puppet foreign minister at the "Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee of the National Assembly" babbled that the South would actively promote "simultaneous entry into the United Nations" of the North and the South this year and, if it failed, push ahead with South Korea's "unilateral entry," according to a report from Seoul.

This is a declaration that the South Korean authorities would persistently seek the permanent division of the country and the nation, following the "two Koreas" policy of the U.S. imperialists.

If the North and the South of Korea simultaneously enter the United Nations in a state of division or one side enters it unilaterally, it will result in legalizing the existence of "two Koreas" internationally and perpetuating the division of the country.

That is why we have asserted consistently that the two parts of Korea enter into the United Nations with a single nomenclature after the realisation of reunification through confederation and made it clear that we would not oppose the entry of the North and the South into the United Nations before reunification, if they would share one seat.

The South Korean authorities, however, brought forward a plan for South Korea's "unilateral UN membership." They seek in this to cast a chill over the ardent desire of the South Korean people for reunification and North-South dialogue and prolong their mucky remaining days as colonial stooges by zealously following the "two Koreas" scheme of the U.S. imperialists.

No Tae-u Regime Becoming 'Military Fascist Rule'

SK0602104391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 6 Feb 91

["Desperate Acts of Dictator in a Fix"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang Febjuary 6 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u ruling group's repressive campaign against patriotic pro-reunification democratic forces shows that it is taking the road of an open military fascist rule surpassing the dark rule of the "Yusin" and "Fifth Republic" dictatorship with a united force of new and old dictators, declares NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today.

The news analyst says:

The No ruling group, after placing the whole land of South Korea under an "emergency wartime system", is directing the sharp edge of the spearhead of suppression to students and other patriotic pro-reunification democratic forces and is madly cracking down on progressive organisations including the "National Council of Student Representatives" and the "Coalition for National Democratic Movement".

This has turned South Korea into a desolate graveyard of democracy and civil rights and terror-ridden land where bayonets of military fascism hold sway.

Now, in South Korea, the fighting spirit of the people for independence, democracy and reunification is growing rapidly and the ardent desire for reunification in particular is rising to the highest tide ever.

Upset by this, the No Tae-u ruling group resorts to harsher military fascist violence to stifle all the forces obstructing their rule including thelpro-reunification democratic force and maintain power and consolidate the long-term office system.

This is, however, nothing but the last-ditch effort of a fool.

The No ruling group should act with discretion and stop at once their hysteric repressive campaign against the patriotic people, clearly knowing that the reckless sword brandishing of military dictatorship will precipitate its own destruction, stresses the commentary.

'Injustices and Swindle' of South Elections Cited

SK3101134591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 31 (KCNA)—The injustices and swindle of the No Tae-u's "Democratic Liberal Party" [DLP] men are rampant in South Korea with the "local assembly elections" drawing near.

The vice-chairman of the Kwanak-B District, Seoul, committee, the vice-chairman the Socho-A District, Seoul, committee of the "DLP", and one other scattered bribes to buy voters over.

A man belonging to the east district, Taegu, committee of the "DLP" distributed a suit of clothes to each of some 60 "influential persons" in the village some time ago.

No's "DLP" clan is vociferating about "fair elections" and "stern punishment of advance election campaign" with the "local assembly elections" approaching as if it has intention to conduct the elections fairly. But this is a sheer lie. It is an intolerable mockery of the people that the "DLP's" men who have grown amid irregularities to clamor about fair elections. [sentence as received]

It is a mistake if they think they could win over the popular sentiments with a few sum of money and goods.

Their "election" fraud brings their corruption into bolder relief.

North Sends Telephone Message to South Red Cross

SK0602095991 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0900 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the Central Committee of the DPRK Red Cross Society, today sent a telephone message to Kim Sang-hyop, president of the South Korean Red Cross.

Notifying him that two liaison officials will be dispatched to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom at 1000 [0100 GMT] Friday, 8 February, 1991, to deliver a letter addressed to the various political parties of South Korea at the request of the various political parties of our side, the telephone message points out that your side will take a corresponding measure for this.

'Team Spirit' Exercise Called 'Preliminary War'

SK0602055791 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0018 GMT 6 Feb 91

[NODONG SINMUN 6 February commentary: "The Dark Clouds of War Hanging Over the Korean Peninsula"]

[Text] The U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u ring have put the Team Spirit joint military exercise in motion.

According to news reports, after ordering U.S. Army units deployed in the Pacific bases—including ones in the continental United States and Hawaii—to take off for their participation in the Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise, the U.S. imperialists have entered the first stage of an operation designed to ferry troops and operational equipment to South Korea for deployment.

Even the U.S. troops occupying South Korea and the puppet army are briskly on the move to participate in the military exercise.

Despite the high-level talks arranged between delegations of the North and the South headed by the premiers of each side, and the dialogue and festival for reunification held between the people from all walks of life—the first such in the history of division, which have begun melting the confrontation and division on the Korean peninsula—the military exercise conducted by the U.S. imperialists and the puppets have rendered tension on the Korean peninsula taut, and the dark clouds of nuclear war hang low over it.

The Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise is a preliminary war and nuclear test war that assumes the northern half of the Republic as a target. According to data released simultaneously in Washington and Seoul, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are said to throw into this year's Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise not just U.S. troops occupying South Korea and the puppets, but also a vast number of troops from the bases in the continental United States and the Pacific, along with the more than enough operational equipment to wage a full-scale war and conduct a large-scale landing operation exercise, river-crossing operation exercise, commando exercise, mobile exercise, and airborne attack while practically operating the nuclear weapons.

This makes everyone see how dangerous a game of playing with fire the Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise is. We cannot help viewing the Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise in relation to the attitude the South Korean authorities adopted toward the recent North-South dialogues.

Driven by a serious desire to settle the national peace and reunification question through North-South dialogue, we called on the South side, in the course of holding the North-South high-level talks last year, to completely discontinue the Team Spirit joint military exercise while dialogue is under way, or if that is not possible than to suspend it for a short while, at least a few years. We have also repeatedly called on it to sign a nonaggression declaration between the North and South.

Even at the outset of this year we once again demanded that the South side immediately respond to our proposal for adopting a nonaggression declaration between the North and South and that it stop the Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise. The South side, however, stubbornly refused to accept all of our sincere calls and then started the Team Spirit-91 war game of playing with fire with the U.S. imperialists.

It is clear to everyone that the South Korean puppets opposed the adoption of a nonaggression declaration so much, and again started the nuclear attack exercise aimed at invading the North this year again, because they are dreaming of realizing their wild ambitions for invading the North in collusion with the U.S. imperialist aggressors.

This year's Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise is more dangerous since it is timed to coincide with an emergency war footing declared in South Korea with the outbreak of the war in the Gulf and the reckless military commotion raised. As has been exposed, no sooner did the U.S. imperialists light the fire of war in the Gulf than they began spreading false rumors as if we were about to strike them immediately, had South Korea declare an emergency war stance across South Korea, and placed U.S. troops and the puppet army on a posture so that they can go into action for a northward invasion. We remember that the U.S. imperialists have long publicly stated that they would strike, with force, the northern half of the Republic, even if war breaks out in some other region of the world.

It is no accident that the U.S. imperialists fly a large number of nuclear-laden aircraft into South Korea almost every day from bases in Japan, including Okinawa, and have them conduct bombing exercises as soon as the war broke out in the Gulf while repeatedly committing military provocation, including aerial espionage over the northern half of the Republic.

The No Tae-u ring—which finds itself in a serious crisis in the face of the South Korean people's movement for independence, democracy, and reunification—and the U.S. imperialist aggressors—who have become more arrogant following the collapse of the balance of power in the international relationship—are about to light the fuse of war with a massive number of troops amassed in South Korea under the pretext of the Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise.

The South Korean puppet clique has not only doggedly taken part in the war in the Gulf, but also noisily argued that it will provide a basis for guaranteeing the punishment of the collective security in an emergency.

This means that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique are bent on realizing their aggressive goals concerning the northern half of the Republic with the united forces composed of the imperialist forces and their followers, just as they did in the Korean war in the 1950's.

The adventurous war exercise commotions kicked up by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique clearly prove that their habitual babbling about peace or an end to the cold war is all false and that they only seek to achieve a war of northward invasion against the northern half of the Republic.

The Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise conducted by the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u ring is pregnant with grave consequences from which it is impossible to return.

Under the conditions in which tensions are aggravated and the flames of the war exercise fly, the North-South dialogue for peace and reunification cannot be carried out smoothly. The North-South dialogues, including the North-South high-level talks, are about to run into a serious threat once again because of the Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise.

In the event that the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u ring lead the Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise to a war of northward invasion, there is no way of avoiding the enormous consequences. War will jeopardize the very survival of our people, threaten peace and stability in Asia and the world at large, and make the people unable to avoid a nuclear catastrophe.

The fame of playing with fire, Team Spirit, will be the same as attaching wings to the No Tae-u ring which is bent on tying the people to the fascist military fetters by conjecturing an atmosphere of war terror and on paving the way for a prolonged stay in power by the fascist military group. If and when this happens, the South Korean people will have their democratic civil rights trampled underfoot more tragically, and the imminent elections of the local autonomous assemblies will be reduced to a toy which the dictators can play with.

The prevailing situation requires that the patriotic forces in the North and the South vigorously rise up together in a struggle to frustrate the U.S. imperialists' and the No Tae-u ring's game of playing with fire.

The way to rescue the North-South dialogues from crisis, realize the democratization of the South Korean society, and defend the nation's welfare lies in the struggle of the patriotic forces in the North and South in unity.

The Team Spirit-91 joint military exercise is an anti-dialogue, anti-peace, and anti-reunification criminal act. The Team Spirit war conducted at a time when the sentiment of reunification gathers momentum in the North and South, and the people are vigorously marching toward reunification during the 1990's, will win no support from any one of the Korean people.

The U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u ring should look squarely at the trends of the world and should take a step to immediately discontinue the Team Spirit joint military exercise. If the U.S. imperialists and the puppets keep conducting the war exercise in defiance of our people's strong opposition, they will come across greater protest and denunciation from our people and the world's peace-loving people, and will be held fully accountable for the consequences of what the war exercise will lead to.

South's 'Provocations' Criticized

SK0602051391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0426 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists sent several formations of FA-18 pursuit-assault planes to the sky above Kongju and Woeyondo from Iwakuni base, Japan, on February 3 and let them stage a joint strike exercise aimed at a surprise attack on inland targets of the Northern half of Korea in coordination with formations of F-4 and F-5 fighter bombers belonging to the puppet army, according to military sources.

Earlier, on February 1 and 2, they brought to Osan Airfield C-141 and C-130 transport planes carrying aggression troops and combat equipment to be mobilised in the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises from their overseas bases in the Pacific and the U.S. mainland.

On February 3 the U.S. imperialists quickly deployed at the Kunsan Airforce base several formations of nuclear-capable F-16 fighter-bombers from their overseas bases in the Pacific region including Misawa, Japan.

In another action, the South Korean authorities February 1 staged an attack exercise against the North in Tongduchon, Yanggu and Pochon with a massive mobilisation of infantrymen of the puppet army and mechanized units, supported by several formations of F-16, F-4, F-5, OA-10 and other fighterbombers and observation planes of the U.S. imperialists and the puppet army and let formations of C-130 transport planes carrying "commandoes" stage in the Seoul area parachuting exercises for infiltration into the depth of the northern half of the country. The aircraft mobilised in various military exercises in the sky above South Korea in one day numbered more than 500.

And, on February 3, the South Korean authorities committed military provocations threatening us, firing dozens of artillery spells from Paeknyong Islet on the extension of the Demarcation Line on the sea.

South Denounced for Interference in Japan Talks

SK0602072091 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1150 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Commentary by station commentator Chong Pong-kil: "Why Do They Interfere in Someone Else's Affairs and Try To Do As They Please?"]

[Text] As is known, amidst great interest at home and abroad the first round of full-dress intergovernmental talks to normalize diplomatic relations between the DPRK and Japan was held recently in Pyongyang. In the history of the DPRK-Japan relations which exceed a century, the official intergovernmental talks between the two countries was for the first time held under the principle of complete equity and mutual respect, becoming the first step in the work to normalize diplomatic relations between the DPRK and Japan.

Based on the results achieved in the Pyongyang talks, the people of the two countries of the DPRK and Japan, as well as the international opinion which loves justice and peace, hope that there will be further progress in the upcoming talks. Nevertheless, the United States is as usual impatient over not being able to put on the brakes in the intergovernmental talks between the DPRK and Japan. Former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Gaston Sigur, who contributed an article to Japan's YOMIURI SHIMBUN on 2 February, said that without progress in exchanges between the North and South it is difficult to hope for approaches in the relations between Japan and North Korea that exceeds the normal limit. The first radio of South Korea [Seoul Domestic Service] said that this kind of opinion by Sigur is noteworthy from the fact that approaches between North Korea and Japan cannot precede North-South dialogue. This is speaking for the U.S. side.

On the other hand, U.S. Ambassador to South Korea Donald Gregg, who held an exclusive interview with the South Korean news agency YONHAP one day before the first round of full-dress intergovernmental talks to normalize diplomatic relations between the DPRK and Japan took place, babbled that he personally reminded the Japanese Foreign Ministry of the sensitivity of this issue, called his attention to this fact, and also babbled that the reason South Korea is strongly demanding that the North Korean side must accept the nuclear inspection before agreeing to normalize diplomatic relations with North Korea is reasonable and that Japan must without fail abide by this.

This clearly reveals the arrogant character of the U.S. imperialists who are used to ordering people around by interfering in someone else's affairs, which is very pretentious nonsense.

The issue of the normalization of diplomatic relations between the DPRK and Japan is an issue between the two countries of the DPRK and Japan, which are independent and sovereign countries. This is through and through an issue that must be resolved according to the independent intention of the governments of the two countries which is in accordance with the desire and interest of the people of the two countries and which is advantageous for the peace in Asia and the rest of the world. For the United States to interfere here is a presumptuous act.

Reflecting the speeches and behaviors of Sigur and Gregg, the South Korean puppets are putting forth preconditions regarding the issue of normalizing diplomatic relations between the DPRK and Japan, and are carrying out obstructive maneuvers. We can see that this is by no means being carried out by their own will, but that this is a product of a joint operation being carried out along with their master, the United States.

The reason that the United States is linking the issue of the improvement of relations between the DPRK and Japan with the North-South dialogue is only a preposterous stubbornness in which its inner intentions can be clearly seen. As the process of the North-South high-level talks have shown up until now, the reason that there is no progress in the North-South dialogue is that the South Korean rulers are opposing any kind of agreement which is of interest to peace and peaceful reunification, and that they are abusing dialogue for the purpose of division and confrontation.

Everyone knows that behind this kind of insincere attitude for dialogue by the puppets lies the black hand of the U.S. imperialists. The U.S. imperialists clearly know they will have a grave influence in the North-South dialogue for this year, but nevertheless they are moving toward the road of forcing to hold the Team Spirit joint military exercises along with the puppets.

The United States insists that the improvement of relations between the DPRK and Japan do not precede the North-South dialogue. Under the circumstances in which it does not want progress in the North-South dialogue, this means that it opposes the normalization of diplomatic relations between the DPRK and Japan.

It is preposterous for the U.S. imperialists to put forth the issue of carrying out the nuclear inspection towards us as a condition for the improvement of relations between the DPRK and Japan. The issue of concluding an agreement on guaranteeing nuclear weapons between us and the International Atomic Energy Agency is not an issue to be discussed in the talks to normalize diplomatic relations between the DPRK and Japan, but is an issue that should be resolved in the negotiations between the governments of the DPRK and the United States. The reason for the delay in resolving this issue is that the United States, the party concerned which must completely carry out the duty of implementing the treaty on preventing the spreading of nuclear weapons and which also deploys some 1,000 nuclear weapons in South Korea, is not giving us the guarantee that it will abolish the threat of nuclear attack towards our Republic, a denuclearized state.

Also, in the case of carrying out the nuclear inspection, it will be appropriate to carry out a nuclear inspection at the same time towards the U.S. nuclear bases in South Korea.

The reason that the U.S. imperialists are not doing the work that they must do, and is only picking a quarrel with us groundlessly or putting forth unreasonable conditions, is to slander the improvement of relations between the DPRK and Japan in any way. Also, if this is allowed there will be nothing else to force us to keep in step with their aggressive strategy to invade Korea.

The issue of the normalization of diplomatic relations between the DPRK and Japan should not be toyed with according to the aggressive ambition of the U.S. imperialists. The U.S. imperialists should throw away their wicked habit of interfering in someone else's affairs and trying to do as they please, and should act with discretion.

Reportage on Yon Hyong-muk's Visit to Malaysia

Malaysian Minister Sends Gift

SK0502152291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1504 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song was presented with a gift by Datuk Sri Mahathir bin Mohamed, prime minister of Malaysia.

The gift was handed by the Malaysian prime minister Monday to the premier of the DPRK Administration Council on a visit to Malaysia.

Arrives 4 Feb

SK0602020591 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the DPRK State Administration Council, arrived in Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia, yesterday by plane for an official goodwill visit to this country at the invitation of Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Mahathir bin Mohamed. Kim Pok-sin, vice premier; Chong Song-nam, minister of external economic affairs; Cho Kyu-il, vice minister of foreign affairs; and other members of the suite arrived with the premier.

Premier Yon Hyong-muk and his party were received at the airport by Datuk Abu Hassan bin Haji Omar, Malaysian minister of foreign affairs; the vice minister of finance; the Malaysian ambassador to our country; and other relevant functionaries. Yu Chae-han, ambassador of our country to Malaysia, and embassy staff members were present at the airport.

At the airport Premier Yon Hyong-muk issued an arrival statement. In it he expressed deep thanks to the Malaysian Government and people for their kind invitation for the visit as well as for their warm welcome. He noted that Korea and Malaysia, as developing countries in Asia, have closely worked with each other and have expanded their ties of friendship and cooperation. He stressed that he firmly believes his current visit will mark an effective occasion in further deepening understanding between the people of Korea and Malaysia and in strengthening and developing friendly and cooperative relations between them.

A ceremonial function for welcoming the premier and his party was held yesterday afternoon in the National Assembly building. The flags of our country and Malaysia were hoisted in the ceremonial site. After the playing of the national anthems of our country and Malaysia, Premier Yon Hyong-muk and Malaysian prime minister reviewed the honor guard of the Malaysian Army. The ceremonial function was attended by Premier Yon Hyong-muk, his party, and the ambassador of our country to Malaysia. The function was also attended by Tan Sri Datuk Mohamad Zahir Ismail, speaker of the House of Representatives; Datuk Abu Hassan bin Haji Omar, minister of foreign affairs; Datuk Sri Haji Mohamed Najib, minister of defense; the minister of international trade and industry; the minister of agriculture; the minister of labor; the minister of youth and sports; the minister of information; the minister of justice; the minister of domestic trade and consumer affairs; the minister in the department of the prime minister; the ambassador of Malaysia to our country; other relevant functionaries; and other representatives of diplomatic missions in Malaysia.

Conveys Kim Il-song Letter

SK0602045891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0437 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the Administration Council of the DPRK, on a visit to Malaysia, Monday paid a courtesy call on Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Mahathir bin Mohamed.

The premier conveyed regards of President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il to the prime minister.

He conveyed a personal letter of President Kim Il-song to the Malaysian prime minister.

The Malaysian prime minister expressed deep thanks for this and asked the premier to forward his wishes of longevity to President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The visit to Malaysia by the premier and his party will help deepen mutual understanding and further develop the existing good relations, the prime minister said, and stressed:

Malaysia supports the reunification of Korea.

The conversation proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

On the same day, talks were held between the Korean premier and the Malaysian prime minister.

Malaysian Premier Hosts Reception

SK0602052691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0459 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Mahathir bin Mohamed on February 4 gave a reception for Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the Administration Council of the DPRK, on a visit to Malaysia.

In his speech, the Malaysian prime minister said Malaysia aspires after regional peace and prosperity, adding: I am pleased to say confidently that both Malaysia and the DPRK have always been friends and there has occured nothing harmful to the bilateral relations between the two countries.

I believe that the continued development of such good relations between Malaysia and the DPRK will have an influence on other neighboring countries.

The DPRK has in the past got on with its neighbors in peace.

I wholeheartedly wish that the friendship between Malaysia and the DPRK will continue to develop so that a successful cooperation for peace and economic prosperity in East Asia may be realized.

In his speech, Yon Hyong-muk said that his current visit will mark a new occasion in deepening each other's understanding and strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation.

Noting that the Malaysian Government is exerting big efforts for peace and stability in Southeast Asia, Yon Hyong-muk expressed full support to its proposal for creating a zone of freedom, neutrality and peace in the region and turning it into a denuclearized zone.

He highly estimated and supported the proposal for creating an East Asian trade market which was advanced by the Malaysian Government to strengthen South-South cooperation and protect the interests of developing countries.

If they unite and closely cooperate with each other on the principles of independence, equality and reciprocity, industrious and talented Asian peoples will be able to attain prosperity and common prosperity of Asia and make a great contribution to the cause of global peace, Yon Hyong-muk stated, and declared:

The government of the DPRK will actively develop friendly and cooperative relations with the peoples of Malaysia and other Asian countries in order to build a new independent, peaceful and prosperous Asia.

Development of South-South Cooperation Viewed

SK0302103791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0832 GMT 3 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 3 (KCNA)—To replace the old international order of domination and subjugation with a new international order and actively develop South-South cooperation on the principle of collective self-reliance is an effective way for developing countries to successfully build a new independent society, freed from neo-colonialist domination and subjugation by the imperialists.

NODONG SINMUN today stresses this in a signed article entitled "Way for Independent Development and Common Prosperity of Developing Countries".

The paper further says:

If developing countries are to attain economic self-sufficiency, it is imperative to do away with the old international economic order, establish a new equitable international economic order based on independence and extensively develop South-South cooperation on the principle of collective self-reliance.

In order to develop South-South cooperation, it is important for developing countries to steadfastly maintain independence and strictly observe the principles of collective self-reliance and of equality and reciprocity.

An important matter in attaining economic self-reliance by developing South-South cooperation today is to struggle against the imperialist moves of aggression and military nontervention.

Developing countries should heighten vigilance against the imperialist moves of aggression and war and pool their efforts and rise in struggle in defence of peace and security.

The government of our republic will as ever strengthen unity with all countries aspiring after independence in accordance with the idea of independence, peace and friendship and actively strive to develop South-South cooperation in politics, the economy, culture and other fields on the principle of collective self-reliance.

Armed Forces Minister Receives Soviet Ambassador

SK0602010491 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1500 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] On 5 February, Comrade O Chin-u, minister of people's armed forces, met and talked with Aleksandr Semenovich Kapto, new Soviet ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to our country, who came to pay a courtesy call.

Report of Philippine Guerrilla Training Denied

SK3101131891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1105 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 31 (KCNA)—UPI Wednesday reported that a communist guerrilla who "had undergone commando training in North Korea" was arrested.

The UPI report that guerrillas belonging to the New People's Army of the Philippines had been trained in our country is a sheer fabrication.

The South Korean subsidized radios and Western media have chimed in, not missing the chance.

This fabrication is a product of an anti-DPRK scheme of those who dislike the development of friendly relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Philippines and, furthermore, do not want friendship and unity among the countries of the Asian region.

It is a well known fact that the DPRK Government which regards independence, friendship and peace as the basic idea of its external policy has made tireless efforts to develop friendly relations with the Aquino government of the Philippines since its establishment.

It is unimaginable that our Republic, which has constantly maintained the principle of independence, mutual respect and non-interference in other's internal affairs, "trained" others.

Our people cannot but pay attention to the fact that the imperialists and their paid trumpeters kicked up such a row, raising much ado about "terrorism" and its "prevention" with the outbreak of the Gulf war as an occasion.

By spreading the lie that we "trained" others, they try to mar the dignified image of our Republic among the world peaceloving people and demolish the daily growing international authority of our Republic.

Fabrication will bring them nothing.

Economic Joint Committee With Germany Established

SK0602045491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0435 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—An agreement on the establishment of an economic joint committee was signed in Cologne on January 24 between the Committee for the Promotion of External Economic Cooperation of the DPRK and the East Economic Committee of the Industry Federation of the Federal Republic of Germany.

It was signed by Vice-Minister of External Economic Affairs of the DPRK Kim Chong-u and the chairman in charge of Korea of the East Economic Committee of the Industry Federation of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Daily Carries Memoirs of Ecuadoran Visitor

SK2901115291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1036 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 29 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN Monday devoted one whole page to memoirs headlined "President Kim Il-song and Socialism of Korea" by Dr. Alba Chavez, a woman parliamentarian of Ecuador, vice-president of Guayaquil University and director of the board of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea.

In the subtitle "True Look of Socialism Which I Saw in Korea" the authoress recalled that she visited Korea four times in recent years. If anyone asks me about my impressions of Korea, I will tell him in a word that epoch-making changes and amazing successes were being made in socialist Korea, she said.

Socialist industrialisation was carried out in a short period of 14 years which can be said to be a moment of history and its might is being demonstrated in Korea which had once been eclipsed even in the world map, she wrote, and went on: Successes unimaginable in capitalist countries 200 years, 300 years old have been made in Korea, eliciting admiration of foreign visitors.

What excited me, a social scientist, all the more was that the socialist society of Korea is a socialist society faithfully serving the people, to be more exact, a genuine people's society whose masters are the popular masses and in which everything serves them. Everything in Korea from one thing to tens of, hundreds of things was for the people.

Indeed, a society which values most the working masses who had been trampled underfoot and forsaken for thousands of years in the bottom of history, and puts them as makers of history and makes everything serve them—this was the genuine looks of the socialist society which I saw in Korea.

Korea was the homeland of a genuine socialist society, a popular socialist society, and the socialism of Korea was "oasis" of mankind, beacon of all people and the cape of the world.

In the subtitle "Great Declaration" the authoress wrote about her emotions and feelings when she was invited to the first session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK in May last year and heard "Let Us Bring the Advantages of Socialism in our Country Into Full Play", the historical policy speech of the great leader president Kim Il-song.

She said:

Today when the grave circumstances are being created where the socialist system collapsed in not a few socialist countries and they are taking the road of capitalist revival, and the world is standing at the crossroads of socialism or capitalism the great president Kim Il-song in his historical speech gave a profound exposition of the theory on the advantages of socialism and the inevitability of its victory, the theory on the inevitability of the downfall of imperialism and the idea of invariably holding fast to the socialist banner no matter what storm may blow.

This is of weighty significance.

The ideas and theories which give flawless answers to such questions of principle whose solution is urgently awaited by the world and mankind, the times and history were a great declaration of complete victory of socialism and a solemn declaration of the final doom of imperialism.

In the subtitle "Unforgettable One Hour and 40 Minutes" the authoress said that she was honored with an audience with President Kim Il-song and deeply felt wherein the ideological and mental source of his great theory of socialism lay.

She said:

One hour and 40 minutes by the president, it was, indeed, a succession of moments of experiencing with her whole heart the human love of a great man, a human love which is loftier and warmer than the genuine love of a thousand and one parents in the world altogether.

He was a great man gifted with boundless love of man, warm love of the people before being an outstanding philosopher, great thinker and theoretician, brilliant military strategist and experienced leader.

The man-centred socialist theory of the president was evolved with the chuche idea, which regards the people as the most valuable, as its soil and nutritious element and, thanks to this theory, a socialist society good for the people to live in has been built in the korean land, spreading rays all over the world.

Indeed, only the great leader President Kim Il-song with unexcelled noble human love, love of the people, could be the first in the world to found the man-centred socialist theory, and only such a person can build a genuine socialist society whose masters are the people.

Greetings Message Sent to Malta Labor Party

SK3001105091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1002 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] sent a message of greetings to the annual convention of the Malta Labour Party on January 30.

Expressing the belief that the excellent friendly relations between the two parties will develop continuously, the WPK Central Committee wholeheartedly wishes the Malta Labour Party success in the annual convention and new success in its future activities.

Message Sent to Mexico's Socialist People's Party

SK3001103291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0959 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea today sent a message of greetings to the 14th congress of the Socialist People's Party of Mexico [SPPM].

The message notes that the 14th congress of the SPPM will be an important occasion in summing up the successes achieved in the struggle to strengthen the party and defend the interests of the people and for peace, democracy and socialism in the past and in developing to a higher stage the party's struggle to adhere to the anti-imperialist independent stand and the revolutionary principle of the working class to the last in face of the imperialists' ever more undisguised anti-socialist manoeuvres and aggression and interference against the Third World countries.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two parties established in the common struggle for the cause of anti-imperialist independence and socialism will grow stronger and develop in conformity with the idea of independence, peace and friendship, the message wishes the party great success at the 14th congress and in its work for the implementation of resolutions of the congress.

Paek Hong-ki Appointed Ambassador to Benin

SK0202225491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1517 GMT 2 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 2 (KCNA)—Paek Hong-ki was appointed DPRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Republic of Benin, according to a decree of the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Compilation of KCNA Press Reviews Published

For 31 January

SK3101054791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0455 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 31 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a report that Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received reply messages from foreign party and state leaders.

Appearing in the daily is news that the great leader President Kim Il-song received congratulatory messages and letters from different countries on the New Year 1991.

The New Year address of President Kim Il-song was reported and seminars on it were held in different countries, says the press.

Conveyed in NODONG SINMUN are world public voices under the headline "The Respected Leader President Kim Il-song is a Great Thinker and Theoretician".

Words of the people of various segments of South Korea expressing ardent reverence for dear Comrade Kim Chong-il are printed in the daily.

MINJU CHOSON says in an article that Comrade Kim Chong-il has always led the revolution and construction along a road of victory.

Printed in NODONG SINMUN are messages of greetings sent by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the 56th regular national convention of the Japan Socialist Party, to the 14th congress of the Socialist People's Party of Mexico and to the annual convention of the Malta Labour Party.

Spotlighted in the press is news that the Komdok Mining Complex and the Musan Mining Complex fulfilled their January assignments and spreading humus soil on fields is progressing apace in rural communities.

NODONG SINMUN editorially calls for actively enlisting and mobilizing the creativity of the masses in the drive to carry out this year's economic assignments.

The daily comes out with an editorial article on the 40th anniversary of the death of Comrade Kim Chaek, a chuche-type staunch communist revolutionary fighter and an able activist of our party and state.

Carried in the daily is news that Alaba Ogunsanwo, director of the board of the International Institute of the chuche idea, stressed in his impressions of Korean visit the validity of the chuche idea and its indestructible vitality.

Given in the press are accounts of the first intergovernmental full-dress talks for the normalization of the DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations and news briefing given by the head of our side's delegation.

Dailies report that a national meeting marking the 45th founding anniversary of the Union of Agricultural Working People of Korea was held.

Printed in the press is an obituary of Col. Gen. of the Korean People's Army Kim Song-kuk, a deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, published by the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea. He died on January 30 from long-illness at the age of 70, it says.

A parliamentary delegation of the Republic of Zaire will pay an official goodwill visit to Korea, says the press.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that the Tanzanian president met the head of a delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Korean Ambassador to Jamaica paid a farewell call on the governor general of Jamaica and the opening ceremony of an irrigation setup built in Mozambique with Korean technical assistance was held in presence of the Mozambican president.

NODONG SINMUN gives an account of national skating contests of school youth and children marking the 45th anniversary of the founding of the league of socialist working youth of korea.

Papers report about the third North-South sports talks to form unified teams for the 41st world table tennis championships and other major international games held in Panmunjom.

MINJU CHOSON runs an article bringing to light the unjustifiable posture of talks of the South side which does not want to form unified teams.

The central standing committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) issued a statement condemning the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises and PRENSA LATINA disclosed the aggressive nature of this war game, says the press.

Papers in commentaries denounce the South Korean authorities for expanding their criminal acts by zealously joining in the Gulf war.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that the South Korean puppet army committed repeated military provocations against the North in the demiliterized zone.

Papers deal with the U.S. imperialists' schemings to impose bigger burden-share upon South Korea for the Gulf war.

According to the press, a Soviet-Japanese joint communique touched on the normalization of the DPRK-Japan relations and the [word indistinct] 100-men committee was formed for an early realisation of the normalisation of the Japan-DPRK relations.

Foreign news columns of NODONG SINMUN include reports that the premier of the State Council of China hoped for a better implementation of the Sino-British joint statement on Hong Kong, the 8th meeting of representatives of west district parties was held in Cuba, the Zimbabwean president outlined the tasks facing the world progressive journalists and the minister of agriculture and fisheries of Japan called for a policy of self-sufficiency in rice. Papers inform the readers that the Iraqi ground force attacked positions of U.S.-led multinational forces and its anti-air raid units continued to counter the air raid of the multinational forces, the multinational forces continued missile attacks and bombings on Iraq, made attack on the Iraqi Navy and voices demanding a stop to the Gulf war are ringing louder all over the world.

In a monthly review of the international situation titled "Mankind Opposes War and Demands Peace" NODONG SINMUN says that a powerful anti-war peace struggle is sweeping the world.

MINJU CHOSON introduces Nauru on the 23rd anniversary of its independence.

For 1 February

SK0102060191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0457 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 1 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a report that the great leader President Kim Il-song received new year's cards from international organizations and different countries and messages of greetings from organizations and personages of various circles of Japan on the new year.

Appearing in the press is an account of a national memorial service on the 40th anniversary of the death of Comrade Kim Chaek, a most faithful revolutionary soldier of President Kim Il-song and an able activist of our party and state. Also printed there is a memorial address of Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president.

Carried in the press is a decree of the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on instituting day of youth to commemorate August 28, 1927 when President Kim Il-song formed the Young Communist League of Korea in the period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

NODONG SINMUN says that the South Korean people boundlessly revere and follow dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The paper reports that Kimjongilia, an immortal flower, is in full bloom at organs, enterprises and families of Korea.

World public voices highly lauding the Workers' Party of Korea are echoed in the paper.

Dailies inform the readers that the Yongsong General Machine Bureau, the Sunchon Cement Complex and units in other domains of national economy overfulfilled their January assignments.

Carried in the press is news of the sojourn of the premier of the DPRK Administration Council in Thailand.

Appearing in the press are the report about the closure of the first intergovernmental full-dress talks for the normalization of the DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations and accounts of a news briefing given by the head of our side's delegation, a reception hosted by the Japanese Government delegation to the talks for its Korean counterpart, and the sojourn of the Japanese Government delegation in Pyongyang.

NODONG SINMUN reports that the newly-appointed Korean ambassador presented his credentials to the president of the Commonwealth of Dominica and he paid a courtesy call on the prime minister of host country.

It is reported in the press that the Chinese PEOPLE'S DAILY, PRENSA LATINA and Indian organizations condemned the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises, and the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets staged in succession various forms of war exercises against the North.

Our side to the Military Armistice Commission (MAC) proposed to the U.S. side to hold the 459th MAC meeting on February 5, says the press.

Printed in the press are reports that South Korean students attacked a branch office building of the "Democratic Liberal Party" in Pusan, the "Korean Federation of Press Unions" (Onnonyon) denounced the authorities' suppression of the press and South Korean Roman Catholic Cardinal Kim Su-hwan demanded that the authorities guarantee nongovernmental North-South exchange.

In a semi-monthly review on the South Korean situation NODONG SINMUN says that the No Tae-u ruling group is bringing the situation of the Korean peninsula to the brink of war while intensifying fascist suppression of the patriotic democratic forces for reunification with the outbreak of the Gulf war.

An article of the paper charges that the South side laid a hurdle in the way of forming unified teams at the 3rd North-South sports talks.

A commentary of MINJU CHOSON hits at Kim Yong-sam who revealed the intention to realize "unification of systems" through "the building of strength" in his speech at the "National Assembly."

The paper carries an article entitled "South Korean Branch of U.S. CIA Manipulating Puppet Regime."

According to the press, Comrade Fidel Castro underscored the superiority of socialism to capitalism and the Soviet president endorsed a decree on maintaining public order, the 138th birth anniversary of Jose Marti was observed in Cuba and the 5th anniversary of the victory of the national resistance movement was marked in Uganda.

Papers inform the readers that Iraqi ground force attacked Khafji, a border coastal city of Saudi Arabia, the U.S. and multinational forces are transferring their ground forces toward the border area of Kuwait, continuing their air raid on Iraqi military and civilian targets.

Papers deal with the building of a new society in Iran, Pakistan, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Jordan.

MINJU CHOSON carries a monthly review of the international situation under the title "Anti-War, Peace and Independent Development Are Common Desire."

NODONG SINMUN deals with the serious unemployment problem in capitalist countries.

For 2 February

SK0202053791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0448 GMT 2 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 2 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today prints a message of solidarity President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received from Blaise Compaore, chairman of the People's Front of Burkina Faso and head of state and government, supporting the new proposal for national reunification advanced by him in his New Year address.

It is reported in the daily that the great leader President Kim Il-song received solidarity letters from various countries.

President Kim Il-song received a message from Malagasy President Didier Ratsiraka in reply to his message of greetings sent to him on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the proclamation of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, says the press.

The press reports that President Kim Il-song received gifts from the Thailand-DPRK Mining Joint Venture Company and the president of the Thailand-DPRK Agricultural and Industrial Joint-Venture and Trade Company.

An article of MINJU CHOSON says that President Kim Il-song has wisely directed the vegetable cultivation in greenhouses to see that fresh vegetables are sufficiently supplied to the population all the year round.

Conveyed in NODONG SINMUN are voices of South Korean people expressing ardent reverence for dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The daily prints what progressive people of the world said in praise of the great exploits performed by Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Appearing in the daily is a message of greetings sent by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] to Chuan Likphai upon his election as leader of the Democratic Party of Thailand.

According to the press, thanks of the WPK Central Committee were conveyed to the entire employees of the Musan Mining Complex and the three-revolution team members active there.

Econews of the press includes reports that January plans were overfulfilled at the major units including the leading sectors of the national economy.

The press informs the readers that the Thai king met with the premier of the Administration Council of the DPRK. Also seen in it is a report about the sojourn of the premier in Thailand.

Premier Yon Hyong-muk is to pay an official goodwill visit to Malaysia, says the press.

NODONG SINMUN runs an article under the title "Original Ideology and Theory Which Indicate Correct Road of Building Revolutionary Party in Our Era".

The daily reports about the national meeting of propaganda workers of trade unions and about the enlarged plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Korean Writers Union.

Papers report that Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam met Japanese journalists and gave answers to a series of important questions raised by them including the question of the signing of the nuclear safeguards accord between the International Atomic Energy Agency and the DPRK.

The Ugandan president met a delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean ambassador to Pakistan paid a farewell call on the Pakistani president, according to NODONG SINMUN.

The paper informs the readers that a plan of cooperation in public health and medical field was signed in Pyongyang between the Ministry of Public Health of Korea and the Ministry of Health of Mongolia.

The paper comes out with commentaries accusing the South Korean authorities of intensifying fascist suppression of the patriotic democratic forces for reunification and hitting out at provocative outbursts of the U.S. ambassador in Seoul against the DPRK with the outbreak of the Gulf war.

The Chinese PEOPLE'S DAILY, the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR and the Indian youth and student organizations condemned the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises, says the press.

Seen in the press is a report that South Korean opposition parties protested against the authorities' "additional support" to the Gulf war.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets continued to stage various war exercises aimed at a surprise attack on targets in the northern half of Korea.

According to the press, Chi Yong-chun who was an employee of the Mudungsan Spa Tourist Hotel of South Korea defected to the northern half of the country.

A NODONG SINMUN article says that the South Korean authorities' advertisement about "termination of cold war" is a crafty ruse to fool the public opinion and cover up their anti-peace nature.

MINJU CHOSON assails the No Tae-u ruling group for using the Gulf war as a pawn for the maintenance of its "regime".

Edited in the press is news that the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson expressed support to the DPRK's principled stand on the matter of normalization of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations and a meeting was held in Niigata in demand of an early normalization of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations.

NODONG SINMUN reports that the Chinese foreign minister hosted a New Year friendship gathering with the officials of the Korean Embassy in Beijing.

Dailies report that Iraq stubbornly resisted the allied forces' air raid and fierce battles were fought between the multi-national forces and the Iraqi forces in Khafji.

Printed in the press is news that third world countries expressed their intention to develop cooperation in different spheres.

It is reported in NODONG SINMUN that the Iranian president called for unity among Moslems, the Indian president outlined his country's major tasks and Thailand is developing and utilizing the sources of natural energy and increasing exports.

"To Safeguard Peace Is Urgent Problem Facing Mankind" is the title of a NODONG SINMUN article.

For 4 February

SK0402065091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0504 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Review of NODONG SINMUN]

[Text] Pyongyang February 4 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a message of greetings sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to President Ranasinghe Premadasa of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, on the independence day of Sri Lanka. Appearing in the daily is a solidarity message to President Kim Il-song from Mathieu Kerekou, president of the Republic of Benin and head of state, supporting the new proposal for national reunification put forward by President Kim Il-song in his new year address. President Kim Il-song received solidarity messages or letters from Sindikubwabo Theodore, president of the National Development Council of the Republic of Rwanda and other political and public figures of different countries, says the daily. The daily informs the readers of the seminar on the work of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il "On the Chuche Idea" which was held at the Korean Cultural Centre in Cairo. It carries an article telling that comrade Kim Chong-il wisely led the intellectuals to steadfastly follow the road of revolution. Rounded up in the daily are words of world progressive people expressing reverence for the great leader President Kim Il-song and our party. The daily carries the first installment of an article on the sincere dedication of our people to the Mt. Paektu secret camp where the native home of Comrade Kim Chong-il is located. It reports that thanks of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was conveyed to the entire employees of the Komdok mining complex, three-revolution-team members active there and their helpers for the successful fulfillment of their January plan. On the occasion of the 31st anniversary of President Kim Il-song's creation of the Chongsan-ri spirit and Chongsan-ri method, the daily carries an editorial entitled "The Officials Should Thoroughly Apply the Chongsan-ri Method To Actively Rouse Masses to a New Great Upsurge" and a report about the uplift effected in the economic construction through the embodiment of the Chongsan-ri spirit and Chongsan-ri method. The daily comes out with an article headlined "It Is Important Way of Increasing Agricultural Production To Boost Fertility of Cultivated Land by Carpeting It With Humus Soil." Tete-a-tete talks were held in Jakarta between Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the Administration Council of the DPRK, and Sudharmono, vice-president of Indonesia, according to the daily. It is reported in the daily that embroidery "Picturing to Herself the Future of the Motherland" which depicts Comrade Kim Chong-suk, heroine of the anti-Japanese struggle and indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, was handed to the Kim Chong-suk University of Education, Hyesan, Yanggang Province. The DPRK new proposal for national reunification is fully supported in different countries and by international organizations, says the daily. The daily in its commentaries hits at the South Korean authorities for taking an active part in the Gulf war and for scheming to use "Mindan" [South Korean Residence Association]-lining people in Japan for their anti-Chongnyon and anti-DPRK smear campaign. The headquarters of Koreans in Japan of the Pan-National Alliance for National Reunification demanded the South Korean authorities to discontinue suppressing reunification democratic forces and immediately release the detained figures, reports the daily. South Korean news of the daily includes reports that students belonging to "Chondaehyop" (National Council of Student Representatives) demanded the release of those who had been arrested for struggling for national reunification and discontinue "Team Spirit" military exercises. An article of the daily stresses that to reunify the country by the way of confederation based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments is the great principle indicating the most correct method of national reunification. It is reported in the daily that the CHINESE PEOPLE'S DAILY called for raising people's ideological and political qualifications and the 10th meeting of representatives of eastern military district party committees was held in Cuba and the chairman of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party is on a visit to China. The daily reports that U.S.-led multi-national forces are continuing bombing and missile strikes on Iraq and the latter is stubbornly resisting them and that different countries of the world called for the settlement of the Gulf crisis. The daily introduces Sri Lanka on the independence day of the country. The daily gives an analysis of the aggravating situation in the world where "the rich get ever richer and the poor ever poorer".

For 5 February

SK0502061691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today reports that President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a message from 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, president of the Command Council of the Sudanese National Salvation Revolution, replying to his message greeting the 35th anniversary of the independence of the Sudan, and a message from Mario Soares replying to his message congratulating the latter on his reelection as president of the Portuguese Republic.

Papers give an account of a rally held by working people in North Hamgyong Province to thoroughly implement the instructions recently given by the great leader President Kim Il-song on developing the national economy of the province to a new, higher stage.

Under the title "Korea Will Shine Brightly Along With the August Name of Comrade Kim Chong-il" NODONG SINMUN conveys words of the world public circles.

Printed in the paper is a message of solidarity to the C.C., the Workers' Party of Korea from the secretariat of the National Resistance Movement of Uganda supporting our new proposal for national reunification.

An article of the paper says that in the period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, Comrade Kim Chong-suk, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, fought with the belief that one can certainly emerge victorious, pulling through difficulties and trials, when one follows the leadership of the great leader.

NODONG SINMUN editorially calls for adding shine to our socialism with a high sense of pride and honor and MINJU CHOSON for stepping up the construction of the Sariwon potassic fertilizer complex.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that a special issue of The Bulletin was published by the Malagasy National Committee for supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

The paper carries dispatches from different sectors of the national economy including a report on innovations in the production of nonferrous metals and consumer goods.

"Our Party's Consistent Principle of Activity Is To Discharge Its Mission as Motherly Party" is the title of an article of the paper.

Papers inform the readers of the sojourn of Premier of the Administration Council Yon Hyong-muk in Indonesia.

Nearly 40 kinds of animals including 23 kinds of birds were newly discovered in the last decade, NODONG SINMUN reports.

Papers report that the DPRK Foreign Ministry's statement denouncing the "Team Spirit 91" joint military maneuvers was distributed as official document S-22167 of the Security Council of the United Nations and the military maneuvers came under fire in many countries.

NODONG SINMUN runs an article entitled "'Team Spirit' Is Nuclear Attack Exercise Against North."

Papers print a statement issued by the North side's headquarters of the Pan-Korean Alliance for Reunification (Pomminnyon) denouncing the South Korean authorities for persecuting the officials of the preparatory committee of the South side's headquarters of Pomminnyon.

Included in the South Korean news columns of the press are reports that students of Pusan National University staged anti-American, anti-"government" protests and the South Korean people strongly rejected the "Uruguay Round" devastating agriculture.

It is reported in papers that the Xinhua News Agency published a commentary denouncing the evermore hectic activities for "independence of Taiwan", a resolution on Korea was adopted at the 11th conference of the International Organization of Journalists and the chairman of the Pan-African Congress called for strengthening the anti-racist struggle.

Papers inform the readers that the U.S.-led multinational forces continued missile attacks on Iraq, Iraq staunchly countered them and many countries demanded a stop to the Gulf war.

NODONG SINMUN reports about the ever worsening economy of capitalist countries.

The paper runs an article titled "Independence and Socialism Are What Mankind Should Pursue."

For 6 February

SK0602062691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0440 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—Dailies here today carry news that Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Mahathir bin Mohamed sent a gift to the great leader president Kim Il-song.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that congratulatory message and letters came from various countries to

Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on the new year.

The Malagasy National Committee for Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea printed the part of national reunification from the new year address of President Kim Il-song in a special issue of its bulletin, says the daily.

The daily reports that the Indian newspaper HINDUSTAN TIMES carried the work of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il "The Present Times and the Tasks Facing Young People".

An article of the daily tells that Comrade Kim Chong-il wisely led the Taean heavy machine complex to be a model in establishing the Taean work system.

Appearing in the daily is a solidarity message to the C.C., the WPK from the Central Committee of the Congolese Party of Labour supporting the DPRK's new proposal for national reunification.

The press carries news that thanks of the C.C., the WPK was conveyed to officials and working people of the county where Comrade Sok Pyong-hwan works for helping People's Army soldiers with all sincerity.

NODONG SINMUN carries the second installment of an article on the ardent devotion of our people to the Mt. Paektu secret camp where the old home of Comrade Kim Chong-il is located.

Econews of the press includes reports that the campaign for producing August 3 consumer goods which was initiated by our party is brisk all over the country and that carpeting crop fields with humus soil is being hastened in the final stage.

Conveyed in the press is news of the sojourn of Premier Yon Hyong-muk in Malaysia.

The Nicaraguan president met the DPRK ambassador, reports NODONG SINMUN.

The sports games for Paektusan Prize opened and the Korean documentary film "Let Us Advance With Firm Confidence" was released, according to the press.

It is reported in the press that the employees of the Kim Chong-tae general electric locomotive works held a meeting to denounce the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities for staging "Team Spirit" joint military exercises and that the "Team Spirit 91" was condemned by South Korean people and in different countries.

NODONG SINMUN in a commentary says that the "Team Spirit 91" is a preliminary war and a nuclear test war against the Northern half of Korea.

The daily comments on the repressive move of the South Korean authorities against the patriotic and democratic forces of South Korea.

South Korean news of the daily includes reports that the president of the Democratic Party declared its determination to struggle against "Democratic Liberal Party" and the Coalition for National Democratic Movement called for the arrest of torture police.

MINJU CHOSON says in an article that the South Korean authorities' concept of "unification of systems" based on one state and one system is a theory for keeping the country divided indefinitely.

The press carries news of another aerial espionage on the Northern half of Korea by the U.S. imperialist aggressors.

General Secretary of the C.C., the Communist Party of China Jiang Zemin called for an effective work of the united front, reports the press.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that the Chinese PEOPLE'S DAILY carried an article titled "New Starting Point in Korea-Japan Good Neighborly Friendship", General Secretary of the C.C., the Communist Party of Vietnam Nguyen Van Linh called for defending socialism and the gains of the revolution, Nelson Mandela urged the abolition of all evil laws in South Africa and the Philippine foreign minister stigmatized the United States as international gendarme.

The daily introduces achievements made by Cuba in socialist construction.

The U.S.-led multinational forces have intensified air raids on Iraq and the latter has persistently countered it, says the press.

NODONG SINMUN runs an article titled "Imperialists' Anti-Socialist Offensive and Two-Faced Game".

Various Companies Overfulfill January Targets

SK0202045391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 2 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 2 (KCNA)—The January assignments of the yearly plan set far higher than last year's were overfulfilled in Korea.

The Komdok Mining Complex overfulfilled the January production quotas of lead and zinc 0.3 percent. This means an increase of over 10,000 tons above the December figure last year.

The Musan Mining Complex fulfilled the January assignment of the yearly plan for iron headings set 80 percent higher than last year's output at 104.6 percent on Jan. 31.

The efficient mining equipment reinforced by state measures is paying off in the fulfillment of the plan.

The Sunchon Cement Complex overfulfilled the January assignment of cement production by two percent, which means an increase of 7,000 tons above that in the same period of last year.

The Yongsong General Machine Bureau, the Sangwon Cement Complex and the Ministry of Forestry are among those which overfulfilled the assignments in the first month of the year.

South Korea

Committee Approves Gulf Transports, USSR Loan

SK0602082991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0756 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 6 (YONHAP)—The National Assembly Defense Committee approved a government plan to dispatch five military transports and support personnel to help the allied war effort in the Persian Gulf Wednesday.

The motion was passed unanimously and will be referred to the full Assembly for approval Thursday.

In other committee meetings, the Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee passed government bills on the revised Status of Forces Agreement and the double taxation avoidance agreement between Korea and the Soviet Union.

The Finance Committee passed a government motion to provide financial assistance to the Soviet Union, though opposition members voted against it.

The Party for Peace and Democracy opposes loans amounting to 1 billion U.S. dollars on the ground that such a huge sum at a time when the trade deficit is growing may hurt the economy.

Committee members from both camps urged the government to audit the Hanbo Business Group on suspicion of real estate speculation in connection with a housing scandal in southern Seoul and asked if favors were given in extending bank loans to Hanbo.

The Special Committee on National Reunification passed a resolution calling on North Korea to cooperate in locating 10 million Koreans belonging to separated families.

Chinese Merchants Offer To Resell Rice to North

SK0602094991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0931 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 6 (YONHAP)—Chinese merchants have offered to buy rice from South Korea and resell it to North Korea, Deputy Prime Minister Choe Ho-chung told the National Assembly Foreign Affairs-Reunification Committee Wednesday.

"The Chinese merchants put in bids for 100,000 to 200,000 tons of rice at 120 U.S. dollars and 150 dollars a ton for resale to North Korea. It is not clear if the offers were made at North Korea's urging or out of business concern, but we are discussing what to do with related ministries," he said.

North Korea, for all the reports of a serious food shortage, had never expressed a desire to buy South Korean rice, he said.

"We want to have candid talks about possible supply of rice to North Korea during the fourth round of South-North high-level talks in Pyongyang," he said.

South and North Korea agreed to hold the fourth round of prime ministerial talks in Pyongyang Feb. 25-28 at the third meeting in December last year.

Choe said the South's delegation to the talks would be changed as the national unification minister had been made a deputy prime minister.

"So far, both the prime minister and national unification minister have been on the delegation. But the lineup is likely to change as it is undesirable for the prime minister and a deputy prime minister to both be on the delegation."

The portfolio was upgraded to deputy prime minister in December to show that reunification of the Korean peninsula was the no. 1 priority.

North Korea reportedly made inquiries through a Singaporean trading firm in mid-January about the possibility of buying more than 100,000 tons of rice at about 100 dollars a ton, but Seoul is unlikely to accept any proposal to import rice unless it is asked directly.

South and North Korea, divided for almost half a century, do not engage in active direct trade. Despite economic troubles and dire food shortages, Pyongyang has not officially accepted any assistance from Seoul.

Some 820 tons of rice from a Christian organization, called "Rice of Love, Korea," were secretly shipped to North Korea last July via Hong Kong. When the story leaked out months later, Pyongyang said it would return the entire shipment.

Companies Seek To Introduce Goods to North

SK2601052891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0310 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 26 (YONHAP)—South Korean companies are contacting North Koreans to introduce pollack and peanuts to meet shortages at home, sources at the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry said Saturday.

Negotiations for 6,500 tons of pollack and 300 tons of peanuts are being conducted by Poongyang Ind. Co., Hyundai Corp. and Samsung Co., it said.

They were authorized by the government between June to December last year to contact North Koreans to buy North Korean goods.

Poongyang and Hyundai were the first South Korean firms to introduce North Korean potatoes in November last year.

Lawmakers Express Desire To Visit Pyongyang

SK0602042391 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 3 Feb 91 p 4

[From the "News Behind News" column]

[Text] In connection with the general meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Union [IPU] which will be held in Pyongyang on 27 April this year, every one of our lawmakers wants to participate in the meeting regardless of the will of North Korea, the host country. Regarding these moves among our lawmakers, people are denouncing them by saying that they are attempting to exploit North- South relations, which should be prudently dealt with, in their individual propaganda.

Kim Yong-sam, executive chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], and Kim Tae-chung, president of the Party for Peace and Democracy, have already expressed their desire to visit Pyongyang, although they have not specifically expressed their desire to participate in the IPU meeting. Besides them Pak Chun-kyu, speaker of the National Assembly; Chae Mun-sik, head of the South side delegation to North-South parliamentary talks; Pak Chong-su, chairman of the Foreign Affairs and National Unification Committee of the National Assembly; Pak Kwan-yong, chairman of the ad hoc committee for unification of the National Assembly; and Kim Hyon-uk, chairman of the ad hoc committee for northern policy of the DLP have expressed their will to participate in the Pyongyang IPU meeting as members of the ROK legislative delegation. According to a report, a total of no less than 20 lawmakers of both ruling and opposition parties have officially and unofficially expressed their will to attend the IPU meeting.

According to reports, however, North Korea has already sent to our National Assembly through the Executive Secretariat of the IPU a message asking the South side to "send an eight-member official delegation and two observers to the IPU meeting according to IPU regulations."

In this regard, on 2 February the Office of Speaker of the National Assembly said: "We have decided on our basic stand of participating in the IPU meeting in Pyongyang. We have not yet decided, however, the size of our delegation to the meeting. Also, we have not received from North Korea any report which indicates that the size of our delegation would be increased." Thus the speaker of the National Assembly was trying to appease the imprudent atmosphere prevailing among lawmakers with regard to the IPU meeting.

North-South Cultural Exchange Center Considered

SK2901021991 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 29 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] A presidential commission has recommended the creation of a center for cultural exchanges between South and North Korea as part of efforts to narrow the cultural gap, a result of 45 years' of division.

The Commission on the 21st Century said in a report to President No Tae-u yesterday that such a center would contribute to national unification.

Dr. Kim Mun-hwan, chairman of the commission's subcommittee on social and cultural affairs, said in the report that the new organization would be made up of scholars, journalists and artists who would conduct systematic studies of North Korean culture and arts.

Kim also recommended that a cultural festival for ethnic Koreans living abroad replace the sports festival to revive their sense of national culture.

Kim, a professor at Seoul National University, also said in the report that moral and ethical values should be reinforced at primary, middle and high schools by reforming the current curriculum.

To help create time for classes on moral and ethical values the current heavy workload of teachers should be reduced, according to the recommendation.

Briefed on the results of the subcommittee's study, President No said that educational reform for "education of the whole person" is an urgent task the nation must tackle.

"Our educational system has greatly contributed to industrializing the nation, so far, but the overheated competition to enter higher institutions have hampered national progress somewhat," No said.

Democratic Party Criticizes Housing Scandal

SK0602025591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0231 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 6 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u's direct order for an investigation into the Suso district housing scandal has failed to squelch suspicions of collaboration by politicians and lobbyists in unethical and perhaps even illegal activities.

The splinter Democratic Party issued a strong statement Wednesday calling for No's resignation if the presidential office was involved.

Party head Yi Ki-taek, in a news conference, demanded that No, ruling party Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam and opposition leader Kim Tae-chung all apologize to the people and answer all suspicions about their involvement in the scandal.

"If public distrust is not erased, the president must bear appropriate responsibility, including resignation," Yi said.

No's order for a probe, issued during a provincial tour Tuesday, is likely to force a prosecution investigation despite claims of a lack of enough evidence to start a probe.

The Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) immediately formed a special team to dig up any irregular activities by administrative and government officials, and the prosecution indicated it will take over if BAI finds evidence of violations.

The Presidential Secretariat and Kim Tae-chung's Party for Peace and Democracy are suspected of pressuring the Seoul city government to allow Hanbo Group, a relatively unknown entity that profited under the Fifth Republic, to build apartments in Suso district in southeastern Seoul and sell them to housing cooperatives. Hanbo is allowed to sell the apartments to the cooperatives at much higher prices than it could on the open market.

Records show Hanbo bought the land in Suso using the names of company executives in order to evade heavy corporate taxes. It reported only half the purchase to the Office of National Tax Administration (ONTA) and was levied a tax of 8.4 billion won (11.75 million U.S. dollars), but filed a petition with ONTA for an exemption. Hanbo also used the land in Suso as collateral for bank loans. Cho-Hong Bank, for instance, is said to have lent Hanbo 50 billion won (69.9 million dollars) with the land as collateral after the land had been sold to the cooperatives.

Hanbo increased the amount of loans using the land, which it no longer owned, as collateral 55.7 percent, or 132.4 billion won (185 million dollars), at the end of last year.

Bank officials have flatly denied wrongdoing or favoritism.

ONTA officials said Wednesday they will probe Hanbo records for possible tax evasion on buying and selling the real estate. Bank records pertaining to Hanbo will also undergo inspection, according to the Office of Bank Supervision and Examination.

Seoul city sources said most of the 16 cooperatives that applied to buy the apartments are ineligible. They estimated that only three are properly qualified and 30 percent of their members are eligible for apartments.

Probe Into Scandal Urged

SK0602063791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0551 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 6 (YONHAP)—Opposition leader Kim Tae-chung called again Wednesday for a parliamentary inspection in the Suso housing scandal and for the apartment distribution plan to be scrapped.

He told reporters there were traces of a cover-up by the government and the ruling party and that his party must invoke and participate in a parliamentary probe.

The press has reprinted a letter from his Party for Peace and Democracy, signed by Kim, to the Seoul city government requesting it give "consideration" to distributing Suso district apartments to housing cooperatives, but Kim denied it put pressure on city hall.

"I do not think so," he said. "If it did pressure city officials, why did they turn down the request."

The letter was sent because the proposal matched the PPD's housing policy for citizens and housing cooperatives, Kim said.

"We neither knew at the time who was behind the plan nor were we lobbied," he said.

If proof of irregularity is found, the PPD will demand the entire distribution plan be shelved, he said.

Charging that the scandal was representative of real estate corruption, the PPD president also denounced the ruling camp for taking advantage of the scandal to evade important law revision issues in the National Assembly.

Following orders from President No Tae-u, the Board of Audit and Inspection said Wednesday its 20-member investigation team began a full probe of Seoul city and related government agencies.

The team will expand its investigation to tax administration, Construction Ministry and finance institutes after the probe to uncover any special privileges given to the Hanbo business group.

Justice Minister Comments on Human Rights Report

SK0602054891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0505 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 6 (YONHAP)—South Korean Justice Minister Yi Chong-nam said Wednesday the U.S. State Department's Human Rights Report in Korea was "relatively objective" but contained unsubstantiated "one-sided allegations" of political prisoners.

"The report takes a relatively objective and positive view of the continuing transition towards democracy and openness" but may confuse people by repeating "one-sided allegations by some human rights groups that there still are 'political prisoners' in Korea and that the police have been using excessive force" in the war on crime begun last fall, Yi said.

"No one is unjustly detained in the Republic for political reasons. Those who some call 'political prisoners' have mostly been convicted of violent demonstrations, arson attacks or other acts of destruction or of such antistate offenses as inciting a violent socialist revolution. The war on crime is also being conducted in strict observance of lawful procedures and with broad public support," Yi said.

"First, we note that in discussing human rights in the Republic of Korea, the report takes a relatively objective and positive view of the continuing transition towards democracy and openness, thus securing freedom of the press and speech and the independence of the judiciary.

"The report, however, disregards the fact that due process has always been followed in compliance with the principles of free democracy since the birth of the sixth republic the government of President No Tae-u," Yi said.

"We must express our concern about the fact that it quotes, without substantiation, only one-sided allegations by some human rights groups that there still are 'political prisoners' in the Republic and that the police have been using excessive force since the government launched a war on crime last fall. This is likely to give a wrong impression of the situation."

The government is "deeply concerned about our brethren in the North," which it was "significant" the U.S. report called "one of the most severely repressive regimes in the world," Yi said.

"We hope and expect that the world community will join us in endeavors to get North Korea to respect human rights and to come forward as a responsible member of the international community," he said.

Opposition Fears U.S. Backlash Due to Soviet Aid

SK2601002791 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 26 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] Opposition lawmakers feared yesterday that the government's plan to provide the Soviet Union with $3 billion in economic assistance would bring about a serious backlash from the United States.

As a result, the U.S. administration would mount pressure on Korea to open its markets wider and call for an increase in the contribution to the U.S.-led multinational force against Iraq, they said.

Rep. Kim Pong-uk of the Party for Peace and Democracy doubted that South Korea has the capability to provide economic assistance to the Soviet Union at a time when the national economy is facing a serious situation because of the widening trade deficit and the Gulf war.

"Many people won't understand why the government plans to give economic assistance to the Soviet Union while it is calling for austerity," Rep. Kim said.

Prime Minister No Chae-pong testified that the government is considering recruiting doctoral degree holders in offices which need their expertise.

Premier No also said that the government will be more active in sending public servants abroad to acquire advanced technology.

He revealed that if the Gulf war drags on and oil prices shoot up to $40 per barrel, the government will implement second-phase energy conservation policies as well as modify its goal of economic growth.

Four other lawmakers took the floor yesterday to ask the administration questions about economic affairs.

Rep. Kim and his colleague Ho Man-ki asserted that the government should shift to tight-money and stability-first policy in order to cope with the worsening economic situation.

They also claimed that the government should place top priorities on curbing consumer price hikes this year. "Now is the time for the No Tae-u administration to declare an all-out war against price increases like the declaration of war against crime last October," Rep. Kim said.

Rep. Kim Tong-kyu of the ruling DLP [Democratic Liberal Party] urged the government to use the current economic crisis as a chance to promote socio-economic reform. "Crisis will entail risk but sometimes bring about a chance as well," Rep. Kim said.

The former assistant trade-industry minister then asserted that the government should introduce the real name system in financial transactions.

"Without uprooting unearned income rampant across the nation, the settlement of labor-management disputes will be impossible," he said.

DLP's Kim Yong-sam Discusses Various Issues

SK2901031091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0146 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—Kim Yong-sam, executive chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], proposed Tuesday forming a National Assembly education reform committee, urged revolutionary changes in the system and apologized for the three lawmakers accused of accepting bribes from business organizations, saying it was a "big disappointment."

Addressing the National Assembly, he pledged an overhaul of the National Security Law and corruption-free local elections and said the Inter-Parliamentary Union [IPU] General Assembly in Pyongyang in April will be important for progress in inter-Korean talks.

"I have in the past tried to create a ripe atmosphere for national reunification, and I am willing to go any place I am needed," he said, hinting he wants to attend the IPU meeting.

The education reform committee should gather the opinions of experts and parents on changes, Kim said, urging big changes in high school education and college admission.

On the university admission bribery scam, Kim promised an unrelenting investigation and said such incidents will not recur.

The National Security Law, which outlaws contact with North Koreans without government permission, will be revised to apply to a narrower scope of so-called anti-state organizations, Kim said.

Activities such as praising the enemy, and giving financial assistance to, or harboring members of, anti-state groups will be punished only if they were intended to benefit the enemy, he said.

Relatives will be exempt from or given lighter punishment if they fail to report violations of the law, he said.

The Agency for National Security Planning (NSP) will be restructured to guarantee its political neutrality. Revision of the NSP law will be sought to prohibit any political activities by NSP employees, Kim said.

"The biggest responsibility of the year is clean and fair local elections, which are being revived after 30 years," he told the National Assembly.

The ruling party will be in the forefront to guarantee fair elections, Kim said.

Apologizing again for the three lawmakers suspected of accepting money from business groups, the executive chairman said he was "sorry and ashamed."

"All of us will take this lesson with introspection and we will attempt to be reborn with a new attitude and determination," Kim said.

Five-Year, $2.18 Billion Industrial Plan Revealed

SK2801023891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0152 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 28 (YONHAP)—The Trade and Industry Ministry said Monday it will launch a five-year, 1.56 trillion won (2.18 billion U.S. dollars) industrial development plan affecting 919 projects.

Technological tie-ups with Japan and the Soviet Union include plans to send 1,000 Koreans to Japan for training and import 350 technologies from the Soviet Union, it said in a policy briefing for this year to President No Tae-u.

The ministry named key goals as improvement of industrial competitiveness, development of manufacturing technology, support for small- and mid-sized firms, expansion of trade partners and alleviation of trade friction.

To improve competitiveness, the ministry will spend 50 billion won (70 million dollars) to promote development of sophisticated technology this year, the report said. The support will continue until 1996 and total 1 trillion won (1.39 billion dollars). The Ministry will cut customs duties on technological facilities.

It will make 8 million pyong (26.4 million square meters) of land available for construction of factories this year alone. By 1996, the country is to have 28 more industrial complexes.

Another 65 billion won (90 million dollars) is to go into automation and updating industrial information, most of it in sectors with the most serious labor shortages such as textiles and home appliances.

The five-year industrial technology development program (1991-1995) will focus on 919 projects, 575 of which will begin this year. It will cost 1.54 trillion won, including 265.5 billion won in 1991.

The next five years will see some 1,000 Korean automation technicians go to Japan for training as the two countries work out details of industrial cooperation, the report said.

The government will seek seven joint research projects with Japan, by both private and public institutes, and will pursue industrial technology cooperation with the Soviet Union on 350 projects, mostly for technology transfer to Korea.

To revitalize export activities, the government is encouraging sales of newer projects and enlargement of export insurance coverage, the report said.

It will try to take advantage of the strong yen in raising export volume to Japan, to find new trade partners in the Soviet Union and other East-bloc nations and to encourage facility exports to Southeast Asian countries, the report said.

Trade With Vietnam, China, East Europe Proposed

Considered 'Key Areas'

SK0602115591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0821 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 6 (OANA-YONHAP)—Trade with Vietnam, investment guarantees with East-Bloc nations, and direct air and sea routes with China are top targets of government policy, a leading economic planner said Tuesday.

Others are to encourage active participation by small- and medium-sized businesses in South Korea's 3 billion-U.S.-dollar economic aid package for the Soviet Union, said Kim In-ho, external economy coordination director of the Economic Planning Board.

Predicting diplomatic normalization with China will take time, Kim said the government will first seek an investment guarantee, the abolition of discriminatory taxes on foreign firms and direct air and sea routes as a prelude to private economic exchanges. [punctuation as received]

Two-way trade between Seoul and Beijing has grown steadily, reaching 3.6 billion dollars last year from 2.98 billion dollars in 1988.

Kim told the board of directors of the International Private Economic Council of Korea, established two and a half years ago as a window to commerce with communist nations, that Britain, France, Japan and Australia had recently expanded trade with Vietnam.

The two countries have no diplomatic ties, but the government will ease trade restrictions with Vietnam for non-security related items and invite more Vietnamese private investment and trade leaders to South Korea, Kim said.

Investment protection pacts will be major goals in Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria while government-organized economic cooperation committees are aimed at Poland, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia, he said.

In advancing into the Soviet Union, the government will establish a single export channel item by item to prevent heated competition among Korean firms, Kim said.

Small and medium businesses will be encouraged to claim a share of the 3-billion-dollar package, which offers chances to export consumer goods as well as entire factories.

Ties Proposed With Vietnam

SK0602004491 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] The government has decided to actively promote normal economic exchange and cooperative relations with Vietnam by drastically improving its hitherto restrictive economic policy toward that country. It also plans to drastically ease the export ban on Vietnam.

The government's policy has been taken to stay in step with European Community countries—including the United Kingdom and France—with Japan, with Australia, and with the ASEAN countries that are trying to make inroads into Vietnam by lifting export bans on Vietnam, after the United States and Vietnam have embarked upon normalizing their relations.

According to this policy, the government plans to expand government-to-government economic cooperation with Vietnam by drastically easing restrictions on exchanges of goods that have no strategic value and on and business operations in that country.

In the meantime, the government plans to seek the signing of an agreement on guaranteeing investment with Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and Bulgaria. At the same time, the government plans to push ahead with the establishment of government-to-government joint economic cooperation committees with Poland, Yugoslavia, and Czechoslovakia, all on the basis of the diplomatic relations established with our country.

Trade With East Europe Planned

SK0602023391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0128 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 6 (YONHAP)—The government will prevent excessive competition among Korean companies in the rapidly expanding Eastern European market through anti-dumping measures and will encourage the advancement of small- and medium-sized firms, officials at the Economic Planning Board [EPB] said Wednesday.

The EPB officials said over-competition was expected because of the 3 billion-U.S.-dollar aid package that Korea promised the Soviet Union last month.

The EPB Committee for Coordination of Economic Exchanges With the Communist Bloc, a recent creation chaired by Assistant Economic Planning Minister for Overseas Economy Kim In-ho, will prevent firms from signing contracts on unreasonable terms in order to earn tied loans for exports of consumer products or get money for plant exports on a deferred payment basis, they said.

The committee will screen and coordinate bids for large volumes of trade with those countries and sizeable investment there.

Seoul announced the economic aid for Moscow last month and a detailed agreement is to be signed in March.

The 3 billion dollars, to be given over three years, comprises 1.5 billion dollars in tied loans for the purchase of Korean raw materials and consumer goods, 500 million dollars in export credits and 1 billion dollars in bank loans.

The tied loans will be used to buy Korean consumer goods and the 500 million dollars will be deferred payments for goods.

To strengthen economic cooperation with Eastern Europe, the government plans to conclude investment guarantee pacts with Yugoslovia, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria, and to promote joint economic committees with Poland, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia.

To facilitate Korean access to the Chinese market, the government will make every effort to eliminate Beijing's discriminatory tariffs on Korean exports, will seek long-term visas for Korean businessmen in China and will try to conclude a bilateral guarantee for investment.

Efforts will also be made to open direct aviation and sea routes between the two countries.

EPB officials said Korean businessmen would be urged to make inroads in the Chinese market through contacts with provinces rather than on the national level.

Korea established diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union on Sept. 30 last year but has yet to set up such ties with China. Seoul opened a trade representative office in Beijing on Jan. 31 and Beijing is expected to reciprocate in March.

The officials said the government would positively consider expanding economic cooperation with Vietnam, but in a discreet manner until peace becomes visible in Indochina.

Research With USSR Pursued

SK0602083791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0815 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 6 (YONHAP)—Government officials and businessmen agreed Wednesday to step up science and technology cooperation with the Soviet Union so that 38 technology research projects can be turned to commercial use as soon as possible.

The Science and Technology Ministry officials, experts and businessmen agreed that such Korean-Soviet joint research projects as the development of a sophisticated filter, already basically agreed on by the two nations, start at the possible earliest date after talks on ways to expedite science and technology cooperation.

Science and Technology Minister Kim Chin-hyon, top officials, heads of eight government research agencies and 22 businessmen were at the meeting.

Other projects include the development of industrial fine ceramics technology, diamond composition and application technology, composition and application of inorganic photoelectronic materials and industrial artificial materials.

An official said small- and medium-sized companies had asked for help to overcome problems such as lack of information, poor negotiating ability and money shortages that stand in the way of their doing business with the Soviet Union.

"The Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST) plans to positively assist technology cooperation between the domestic research agencies or enterprises and the Soviet Union especially through the Korea-Soviet Science and Technology Cooperation Center recently established within KIST," Dr. Kwon O-kwan of KIST said.

To activate science and technology cooperation successfully, the government may send a joint research mission to the Soviet Union this spring, hold a Korea-Soviet science minister's meeting in May, and screen and begin joint research projects in June or July, the official said.

Need To Integrate EC Stressed

SK2501070991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0615 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 25 (YONHAP)—The Economic Planning Board (EPB) believes a comprehensive plan is needed to prepare South Korea for the economic integration of the European Community in 1992, when it will become the world's largest market, an EPB official said Friday.

The plan will be drawn up on the basis of a paper delivered at a seminar, sponsored by the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security, by a semi-official working-level countermeasure committee against EC market integration, the official said.

Among the suggestions in the paper were promoting advancement of Korean firms into Europe, expanding tax exemption on overseas earnings, making merger and acquisition of foreign firms easier and strengthening protection of intellectual property rights, he said.

The committee, established in December 1989 as a follow-up to President No Tae-u's tour of five European countries, is headed by Kim In-ho, assistant economic planning minister for international policy coordination.

The government will boost investment by Korean companies in the EC, taking into consideration their competitive edges and characteristics. Those with weak competitiveness will be denied access.

Labor-intensive industries will be steered into low-wage Spain, Portugal and Northern Ireland, technology-intensive firms into advanced countries such as Germany, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg, and marketing and services companies into distribution centers such as Amsterdam, Hamburg, Dusseldorf and Antwerp.

Competitive industries will be pushed to make fresh investments, less-competitive ones will be prodded toward merger, acquisition or joint investment and marketing firms will be guided to invest in sales networks with specialist wholesalers.

To help Korean firms enter the EC and prepare the nation for internationalization of financial systems, the government will advise banks and securities firms to set up operations in financial centers such as London, Luxembourg and Frankfurt before integration.

It will try to conclude agreements on prevention of double taxation with Spain and Portugal as soon as possible, and give priority to real estate investment in EC countries.

Also planned is eliminating corporate tax, which is paid abroad, informing firms of the differences between Korean industrial standards and European standards, and championing agreements on mutual recognition of test institutes.

To restrain competition between exporters, there will be a channel for cooperation.

Korea will try to stop the EC from becoming an exclusive bloc by upgrading ties with Japan and the Asia-Pacific region, and by advancing technical collaboration with EC nations through the European Research Coordinative Agency (Eureca).

Besides which, expanding insurance to support the expansion of trade and investment is under way, the official said.

'Red Tape' Reportedly Slows Overseas Investment

SK0502084391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0805 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 5 (YONHAP)—South Korean manufacturers virtually all say there is too much red tape involved in getting approval to make an overseas investment and complain about the time-consuming process required to advance into other countries, but most are satisfied with the results of their investment, the Trade and Industry Ministry said Tuesday.

Reporting on a survey of 111 firms investing in Southeast Asia, Europe, Oceania and Latin and North America, it said 43 percent called the process of investing abroad "very complicated," 41.8 percent "somewhat complicated," and 8.9 percent "appropriate." The survey was conducted at the end of last year.

It took between four and six months for 38.8 percent to get approval to invest abroad, from seven to 12 months for 37.6 percent and more than 13 months for 10.7 percent, it said.

Asked to rate the performance of their investments, 32.9 percent said "fine" and 41.2 percent "endurable."

Rising wages were the main reason for relocating factories or investing abroad, 58.8 percent said.

Such labor-intensive industries as textiles, footwear and stuffed toys account for 39.2 percent of the relocated plants, electric and electronics for 27.1 percent.

Of 2.218 billion dollars in 1,220 investments, amounts below 1.5 million dollars accounted for 57.7 percent—500,000 to 1 million dollars 36.5 percent and 1 million to

1.5 million dollars 21.2 percent. Investments between 2 million and 5 million dollars accounted for 23.5 percent and investments over 5 million dollars for 11.7 percent.

Among businesses, 67.2 percent export their production to third nations, 25.4 percent sell it on the local market and 7.4 percent ship it to Korea.

As the businesses source 90.9 percent of their raw and secondary materials from Korea, exports due to overseas investment are expected to increase, the Ministry said.

Hyundai Asks Government Approval for Soviet Crews

SK0602080391 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 4 Feb 91 p 14

[Text] The Ministry of Transportation said on 3 February that the government will consider authorizing 15 Soviet crews to get on board the national flag carrier for the first time.

The ministry said that the Hyundai shipping company, which may transport lumber produced by the joint ventures of the ROK and the USSR in the woods of the Soviet Svetlaya District, has applied to the government for authorization of 15 Soviet crews, including a captain, to be on board its ship. The ministry said that it will soon prepare a plan to take the complementary measures in accordance with the company's demand for the Soviet crews on board and has decided to announce its result around 11 Febuary.

The Hyundai shipping company said: The foreign crews were restrained from landing at the Svetlaya port. The Korean crews are reluctant to get on board in the area of Svetlaya due to the low temperatures ranging from 20 to 30 degrees below zero. The Soviet crews on board will be helpful to the security of the ship as well as the crews' safety because the lumber ship should pass through the territorial waters of the North Korean boundary in transporting lumber from Svetlaya to Ulsan.

Subsequently, it has submitted an application with its labor union's documents to the Maritime and Port Administration for approval.

Further Coverage of Visiting Economist's Comments

'Optimistic' About Soviet Reform

SK0602004191 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 6 Feb 91 p 6

[Text] Stanislav Shatalin, a former top economic aide to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, yesterday said he thought the ongoing Soviet economic reform would succeed by the year 2000.

"I am optimistic about the success of the economic reform by the year 2000 considering the Soviet Union's huge natural and manpower resources," Shatalin said in a Seoul seminar arranged by the Korea Development Institute.

Shatalin, 57, an academician and member of Gorbachev's Presidential council until its dissolution in January, also based his optimism on the favorable world environment. The world economy is helping the Soviet Union transform its economy into a market-oriented one and in that sense South Korea can be a big help, said the outspoken, liberal economist who arrived in Seoul Monday for a six-day visit at the invitation of Kum Chin-ho, chairman of the International Trade and Business Institute.

He said without a single financial market, all the economic reform programs are unrealistic.

"The only way out of the current economic crisis is for the Soviet Union to introduce an independent currency and banking system," said Shatalin, an academic secretary with the Economic Department of the Soviet Academy of Science since 1989.

He admitted that there is a shortage of qualified experts and managers in the field of finance necessary for transition to a market economy.

Asked whether the Soviets will accept the outcome of the reform which will produce more losers than winners for the time being, Shatalin said Soviet economists and politicians are doing their best to minimize the number of losers.

"The government should tell the truth by mentioning difficulties facing the Soviet economy and then the people will understand all those things and will cooperate in moving ahead," he said.

Assesses 'Failed' Reforms

SK0602062991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0556 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 6 (OANA-YONHAP)—Stanislav Shatalin, a key architect of Soviet economic reform, said Wednesday that the advancement of Western businesses into the Soviet Union would play a pivotal role in helping the Soviet economy introduce a market economy.

It is highly likely that the Soviet economy, which has chiefly depended upon natural resources development for its growth, will expand rapidly if foreign technology is introduced, Shatalin said in a speech on Soviet economic reforms at a seminar sponsored by the state-run Korea Development Institute.

Shatalin arrived on Sunday for a six-day visit as a member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, and is seeking to attract Korean investment in his country. He is a guest of the International Trade and Business Institute, a private think tank headed by former Trade and Industry Minister Kum Chin-ho.

Better known for his aborted "500-day plan" for converting to a market economy, Shatalin said President Mikhail Gorbachev's economic reforms have failed because they ignored the need to create a new economic system.

The Soviet Union did not adopt the 500-day plan but chose a guideline that featured stabilizing the economy and setting up a market economy, but which lacked substance and was no different than previous reform plans, the former presidential council member said.

The Russian Republic has introduced the 500-day plan as the basis of its on-going economic reforms, and as the plan calls for an independent currency and financial systems Russia is demanding independence, he said.

Economic reforms under Gorbachev that started in 1985 and peaked in 1987 failed due to inflation resulting from expansion of the money supply without increases in production.

The Soviet Union succeeded in demolishing the economy but failed to pay enough attention to the establishment of a new system and getting out of economic isolation, he said.

Explaining the economic situation before Gorbachev, he found the biggest fault the expansion of the administrative hierarchy, which brought excessive intervention and directions, spoiling the economy with lack of incentives.

BRUNEI, MALAYSIA & SINGAPORE

Malaysia

Police Tighten Security in Diplomatic Quarter

BK0602093891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0917 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 6 (AFP)—Malaysian police blew up two packages fearing they contained bombs here as security was beefed up in the city's diplomatic quarter following an attack on a U.S. Embassy guard, officials said Wednesday.

"There were no bombs (in the packages) but we are not taking any chances," Kuala Lumpur Police Chief Henry Chin said of Tuesday's incident.

Police defused a crude bomb near the office of American Airlines on the second floor of a commercial highrise in the heart of Kuala Lumpur's diplomatic quarter on January 25.

A Malaysian U.S. Embassy guard was attacked by an unknown assailant outside the U.S. chancery here early Saturday and later underwent surgery for a chest wound. Reports said he was recovering.

Mr. Chin said that police found one package in the main lobby of the highrise Dayabumi complex which houses the Ministry of Primary Industries and offices of PETRONAS, the national oil corporation. The other package was found outside the Brazilian embassy. Mr. Chin said that the package at Dayabumi contained an old pair of shoes while that left outside the Brazilian Embassy contained old clothes.

Security sources said the Malaysian Government had begun issuing local registration plates for cars used by U.S. and British diplomats. "I think everything is being done to ensure our safety. We are happy with the arrangements," a senior western diplomat said.

Government Supports Pakistani Gulf Peace Proposal

BK0502160891 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Malaysia has supported Pakistan's proposal for convening an emergency meeting of the foreign ministers of Islamic countries in Islamabad to arrive at a consensus on ways to bring an early end to the Gulf war. The support was expressed by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed during a meeting with a three-member Pakistani delegation in Kuala Lumpur today. The Malaysian prime minister assured his country's support for any initiative taken or any proposal put forward by Pakistan for a cease-fire in the Gulf war, because Malaysia cannot remain insensitive to widespread destruction and loss of life in the Islamic world. He, however, stressed that any solution of the Gulf crisis must include the issue of withdrawing Iraqi troops from Kuwait. The Pakistani delegation led by Federal Railways Minister Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani will depart Kuala Lumpur for Brunei Darussalam tomorrow.

Party Calls on Thai Muslims 'To Fight for Iraq'

BK0602030191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Feb 91 p 3

[By Soemsuk Kasitipradit]

[Text] Pattani—A Malaysian opposition party has called on Thai Muslims in the sourthern provinces to volunteer to fight for Iraq against the US-led coalition in the Gulf War, an intelligence source said yesterday.

Thai-language leaflets bearing the seal of the fundamentalist Parti Islam (PAS) that have been found in the southern border provinces say that Baghdad has assigned the PAS to recruit Muslim volunteers in Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines and Burma to fight against "infidels". The PAS leaflets offer 20,000 Malaysian ringgits (about 185,000 baht) to each volunteer who signs up with the party in Kelantan State, Malaysia. The source said local authorities were surprises by the leaflets.

PAS on Friday reportedly announced it had signed up 2,500 volunteers to fight in Iraq since starting its recruitment campaign at a party meeting on January 21.

In a related development, members of the House Military Affairs Committe led by Adm Siri Sirirangsi visited Pattani yesterday. They were briefed on the situation in the region by Fourth Army deputy commander Maj-Gen Kitti Rattanachaya at Ingkayuth Military Camp. Maj-Gen Kitti told the legislators the Fourth Army is implementing a long-term plan to solve problems in the South that are mostly caused by mistrust between government officials and Muslims. Following an extensive public relations campaign, local people have a better understanding of the Government, he added. Local authorities are closely working with Muslim leaders and organisations, he said.

The governors of the five southern provinces of Songkhla, Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat and Satun are to be responsible for solving problems concerning the safety of teachers, he said.

Some members of the visiting House committee criticised police for the lack of security in the area. In many crimes, the police never catch the culprit, which causes local people to have little respect for the authorities, they said. The force needs major improvements, they said.

One committeeman, Yala MP [Member of Parliament] Wanmuhammando Matha, said most southern people side with Iraq in the Gulf War. But there would be no uprising in the South as long as Israel stays out of the war, he said, although some people have tried to instigate Muslim unrest.

The intelligence source said there may be a mass demonstration in the area if the allies launch ground attacks against Iraq because local Muslims have long hated the

United States. High-level national Security Council officials will today visit the South to be briefed on the reaction of local Muslims to the war, the source added.

Minister: ASEAN Endorses New Economic Grouping

BK0502061391 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0329 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 5 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The East Asian Economic Grouping (EAEG) has received the endorsement of the ASEAN nations.

International Trade and Industry Minister Rafidah Aziz completed her consultations with the ASEAN six with a visit to Brunei at the weekend. Rafidah on Monday described her trip to Brunei as "successful", adding that the Brunei Government has agreed to give the proposal its full support. Its official will also work together with officials from Malaysian and other ASEAN countries to finalise details of the evolution of the EAEG, she added.

The other ASEAN partners, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore and the Philippines, had earlier expressed support for the proposal.

The next step will be for ASEAN officials to study the concept and work out an appropriate strategy or approach for the grouping, so that it can be beneficial to countries in the region, Rafidah said. She said Malaysia has also offered itself as a venue for a forum among trade officials from East Asia.

The forum, to be held as soon as possible, will discuss issues under negotiation at the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks, held under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). It will focus on how ASEAN's voice can be strengthened to represent the views of developing countries and to ensure that the results of the multilateral trade negotiations are fair to both developed and developing countries.

Another step forward will be for Malaysia and other ASEAN members to explain details of the concept to countries in the region who may want to join the grouping.

Rafidah said senior economic officials and senior foreign affairs officials will also hold meetings to discuss the technicalities of setting up the EAEG. She said there is concensus among the ASEAN members that the EAEG proposal be given summit-level endorsement when the ASEAN heads of state meet in Singapore at the end of the year.

The EAEG was proposed by Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed in December last year after the final lap of the Uruguay Round in Brussels failed to yield a fruitful conclusion. The grouping will include the members of ASEAN, China, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and South Korea. Its objectives include working out a collective strategy to approach the GATT negotiations to anhance the region's prospects and to strengthen economic links among countries in the East Asian region.

Of the East Asian countries, China is receptive to the proposal while Japan is taking a "wait-and-see" attitude.

Mahathir 'Aware' of U.S. Opposition

BK0502054191 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0512 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 5 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said Tuesday Malaysia was aware of efforts by the United States to influence certain countries not to participate in the East Asia Economic Group (EAEG).

"In spite of that, Malaysia will continue with efforts to attract as many East Asian countries as possible to participate in EAEG," he told reporters here.

Dr. Mahathir said, in reply to questions, that Malaysia did not plan to talk to the United States about its action as "it is not for us to talk to them." When the United States formed the common market with Canada, it did not seek Malaysia's views and Malaysia did not interfere, he added. He also said that all countries had their own interests and gave priority to those interests. "If they hold to American interests, certainly, they will not like cooperation among other countries as it will prevent their control of the world's economy," he added.

Formation of EAEG, proposed by Dr. Mahathir on December 10, is aimed at enabling East Asian countries to plan trade programmes that would widen markets and trade relations among them.

Asked if the U.S. action would make it difficult for Malaysia to make EAEG a reality, he said Malaysia was prepared to face all obstacles and difficulties. "In any matter nothing is easy" he added. Malaysia also did not fix a time frame to make EAEG a reality, he said, adding that Malaysia was prepared to be patient on the matter.

Radio Views Aid for SRV Economic Reconstruction

BK0502112591 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Malaysia has declared her willingness to offer assistance to Vietnam in that country's development efforts, particularly in the fields of petroleum, mining, plantation, and forestry.

This offer comes in the wake of encouraging signs that the Cambodian problem will soon come to an end. Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed has also pledged Malaysia's investments in financial services and the revival of the special scheme to develop Vietnam's rubber industry. Until the Cambodian conflict erupted, Malaysia had provided about half a million ringgit under the scheme.

In line with its reconstruction efforts, Vietnam now practises new economic freedom for free market system. It is moving ahead toward reforms to allow different kinds of ownerships including a private capitalist sector. This has created a fresh enthuasiasm among the Vietnamese with regards to work. Along with economic reforms, there is clear evidence of political renovations. Under new laws enacted just a year ago, Vietnam offers various incentives to potential investors from around the region. Thus, this means that Malaysia is keen to step up economic relations with Vietnam and participate in its reconstruction efforts. This is evident from the setting up of a Malaysian consulate which will also serve as a trade office in Ho Chi Minh City—formerly Saigon.

The Malaysian Government has waived some of the restrictions for Malaysians going to Vietnam for business reasons. Last year, a delegation of Malaysian businessmen went to Vietnam to seek investment opportunities and trade ventures. It is encouraging to note that Malaysian entrepreneurs are showing an increasing keenness to step up their operations in Vietnam and sell their goods. After years of isolation there are naturally vast opportunities for trade and investment in Vietnam. However, Malaysian businessmen are aware that they have to exercise much patience in their desire to reap benefits from the opportunities available. They are conscious of the fact that they lag way behind entrepreneurs from other countries in the Asia-Pacific region insofar as venturing into business in Vietnam in terms of (?dollars). When Vietnamese troops invaded Cambodia in late 1979, Malaysia, ASEAN, and the rest of the democratic world supported the embargo on aid and economic ties to Vietnam. While many adhered to the move on sanctions, there were others who were less scrupulous by stepping up closer trading ties with Vietnam. But this is in the past. And now that Malaysia has shown her willingness to assist Vietnam in its economic reconstruction, businessmen here will be only happy to avail themselves of the trading and investment opportunities now offered.

But with the visits of Vietnamese officials to Malaysia, there is an awareness that Vietnam is keen to study Malaysia's method of handling economic issues particularly on manufacturing sector which has been the star performer in this country's economic growth in the last few years.

Malaysia is ever willing to share its expertise and know-how with Vietnam. As Dr. Mahathir has said an increased economy for Vietnam will not only contribute to a prosperous Vietnam but will also benefit the whole of Southeast Asia.

Singapore

Deputy Premier on Ties With Malaysian Leaders

BK0402152591 Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English 3 Feb 91 p 3

[Text] Singapore's new leaders can achieve a practical and realistic relationship with their Malaysian counterparts, said Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong. He said he discovered "no difficulty in mutual co-operation" after meeting the younger Malaysian leaders such as Education Minister Anwar Ibrahim, Defence Minsiter Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak, Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Sri Paduka Rafidah Aziz and Finance Minsiter Datuk Paduka Daim Zainuddin.

Brigadier-General [BG] (Res) [Reserves] Lee, who is also Minister for Trade and Industry, made these comments on Singapore-Malaysia ties in an interview published in the NANYANG SIANG PAU, a Malaysian daily and LIANHE ZAOBAO yesterday. The report was based on an hour-and-a-half interview he gave to seven Malaysian journalists at his office recently. The journalists represented NANYANG SIANG PAU, SIN CHEW JIT POH, BERNAMA, NEW STRAITS TIMES and UTUSAN MELAYU.

BG Lee remarked that bilateral ties between the two countries have been further strengthened by Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong's recent visit to Kuala Lumpur. He said that Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed was right when he commented: "To achieve friendly ties between two nations, it does not matter who gets more benefits." Likewise, BG Lee said, Singapore would not mind who receives more benefits in any project.

When asked to comment on the "sometimes cold" bilateral ties, he said such a situation was inevitable, as even a couple would have arguments at times. But whatever the differences, he said, both countries could always work together if there was mutual understanding.

"Comfortable" was how he described the defence ties between the two nations, adding that Singapore was willing to participate in any project initiated by Malaysia.

Were there lack of mutual trust or even spying activities between the two countries? BG Lee said that this issue had already been explained by former Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew. It is necessary for every nation to collect information, he said, but the most important thing is the motive behind the action. He also spoke on the possibility of the Growth Triangle being extended to other states. "If the scheme proves successful in Johor, we could extend it to the other states.

"Penang, for example, could also be involved, especially in the area of air transportation, setting up of branch companies and improvement of facilities."

He said that Prime Minister Goh would discuss water supply during his visit to Johor tomorrow which includes a tour of the Sungai Linggui dam.

As to whether Singapore would buy water from Pahang, he said the project was a long-term one and added that Singapore did not wish to see ties being warmed up only during times when water supply was being discussed.

Cambodia

Sihanouk Condemns Phnom Penh's Election Plan

BK0602112891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1116 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Bangkok, Feb 6 (AFP)—Cambodian guerrilla leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk in a statement issued here Wednesday, has condemned Phnom Penh's announcement it will hold elections next year with or without a settlement to the war in Cambodia.

The former Cambodian monarch, the titular leader of a Khmer Rouge-dominated guerrilla coalition fighting Cambodia's Vietnam-installed regime, said "any possibility that general elections organized by the Phnom Penh quislings is to be ruled out. "Such elections would only serve to legalise Vietnam's protectorate over Cambodia and its annexion of the country," said Prince Sihanouk, whose followers form one of two non-communist factions allied to the Khmer Rouge.

The remarks by the prince, who is currently staying in Beijing, came in a statement circulated by his office here in reaction to a decision by Phnom Penh for a final one year extension of the term of the Cambodian National Assembly.

Phnom Penh Foreign Minister Hor Namhong told the British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) in an interview Monday that this was "the last extension of the mandate" of the Cambodian parliament which was set up in 1981 and had its term extended for five years in 1986. "Whether there is a solution or not, in 1992 we will organise an election to show respect for democratic principles," Mr. Hor Namhong added.

Vietnam, which invaded Cambodia 12 years ago to topple a Beijing-backed Khmer Rouge regime and install a client government in Phnom Penh, announced in September 1989 a total military pull-out from the Southeast Asian nation. But the Khmer Rouge, a radical Marxist group and their U.S.-aided coalition partners have repeatedly said Hanoi still in effect controls Cambodia and keeps troops in the country.

Cambodia's warring factions have agreed on "fundamental" issues in a United Nations-brokered peace plan, but they still have major differences.

The plan would authorise the United Nations to organise free and fair general elections in Cambodia following the forging of a comprehensive political settlement.

Sihanouk Backs Ranariddh in Face of Party Split

BK0602075591 Hong Kong AFP in English 0735 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Bangkok, Feb 6 (AFP)—Cambodian resistance chief Prince Norodom Sihanouk has expressed full backing for his son as leader of his supporters, following the announcement in Paris of a separate group within his faction.

In a statement circulated Wednesday by his office in the Thai capital, the former monarch, who heads one of two non-communist groups in the tripartite resistance coalition, said members of the Paris group "were free to go for autonomy."

"But," he added, "I personally support 100 per cent Prince Norodom Ranariddh" as leader of the faction.

The third resistance partner is the Marxist Khmer Rouge, whose four-year rule left hundreds of thousands of Cambodians dead and ended with the Vietnamese invasion in December 1978.

The Paris group is led by Khek Sysoda, a founder of Prince Sihanouk's FUNCINPEC (the French acronym for National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia). It issued a manifesto January 31 stating its "refusal of any cooperation whatsoever with parties which persist in violating human rights," an allusion to the Khmer Rouge.

Prince Sihanouk failed to address in his statement the issue of alliance with the Khmer Rouge but said FUNCINPEC was fighting for "a liberal democratic system, identical to the one of France's fifth republic," and for Cambodia's total independence.

The prince, who remains titular leader of the guerrilla coalition despite his resignation two years ago as head of FUNCINPEC, has repeatedly defended his controversial alliance with the Khmer Rouge by saying peace in Cambodia would be impossible if that faction were excluded from a settlement.

Prince Sihanouk was succeeded by Prince Ranariddh, the commander of his father's guerrilla force fighting the Phnom Penh Government, when the former Cambodian monarch resigned as FUNCINPEC leader in 1989.

Ieng Muli Says KPNLF Ready To Attend Talks

BK0602092991 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Ieng Muli, secretary general of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] and member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC], said that the KPNLF has agreed to participate in a new round of talks to settle the Cambodian problem, but would not accept any modification of the peace plan forged by the Big Five—which it has already fully endorsed—if the alteration will provide the Vietnamese with a chance to continue occupying Cambodia and deprive the Cambodian people of their right to self-determination.

In an interview on Tuesday with a correspondent from Voice of the Khmer, Ieng Muli said, following his meeting with Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, that at the next round of talks, the topic to be thoroughly discussed would concern only Vietnam and the group it has propped up in Phnom Penh, because they have rejected the Big Five's peace plan in its entirety. As for the resistance party which has already voiced its support for the plan, our task is only to review the points they have demanded in order to improve the document.

Ieng Muli added that if the improvement consists of the Vietnamese withdrawal from Cambodia and the implementation of the Cambodian people's right to self-determination, then we will accept it immediately without further discussion and this round of talks will certainly be crowned with success.

Ieng Muli pointed out that the current problem in Cambodia is caused by two antagonistic forces—the Vietnamese aggressor force and the Cambodian people's force, who have been striving to liberate the country and to restore freedom to the Cambodians. He said disguised Vietnamese troops are still mixed among the Heng Samrin forces and that this is the reason why the Vietnamese and the Hun Sen group do not want to lay down arms.

With regard to Cambodia's sovereignty, Ieng Muli said Vietnam has impinged on that sovereignty and that the topic of Cambodian sovereignty ventilated by the Vietnamese is only for the purpose of blocking the settlement of the crisis in Cambodia. He stressed that nobody knows about Cambodia's national sovereignty better than the United Nations.

On the issue of the Khmer Rouge, the KPNLF secretary general said the preventive measures against them should be taken via a political settlement of the Cambodian problem. Vietnam has opposed the disarmament of the Cambodian parties using the Khmer Rouge as a pretext for further waging the war. He said Vietnam should leave the Cambodians to decide on the vital issue of the Cambodian nation and people, who have suffered for years, by not blocking the settlement of the Cambodian problem.

'Genuine' SRV Regiment 'Hiding' in Battambang

BK0602070091 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] On 30 January, people and our Cambodian national resistance forces on the North Sisophon-Route 10 battlefield reported that the Vietnamese 479th command in Siem Reap ordered a regiment of Vietnamese enemy aggressor and race exterminator troops in the 5th Division, called the 75th Division, to hide themselves in Chup village, Chup commune, Sisophon District, Battambang Province.

This regiment of Vietnamese enemy aggressor and race exterminator troops from the 5th Division, called the 75th Division, are hiding themselves as genuine Vietnamese army units and are not mixed with units of the puppet troops and traitors to the nation of Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim, Vietnam's lackeys. As for Vietnamese aggressor troops from other regiments in the 5th Division, called the 75th Division, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have ordered them to mix with units of puppet troops in the 179th and 286th Divisions and the provincial and district forces stationed in Sisophon and Thmar Puok Districts in Battambang Province; and in Samraong and Chong Kal Districts in Oddar Meanchey Province.

The task of this regiment of Vietnamese aggressor and race exterminator troops hiding in Chup Village is to intervene and launch attacks on various fronts within the Sisophon battlefield north of National Route 5.

SPK: 100 Enemy Troops 'Put Out of Action'

BK0602064891 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0436 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK February 6—In the fourth week of January, 100 enemy soldiers were put out of action by the government forces during clashes elsewhere in the Province of Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey 300 km northwest of Phnom Penh.

The provincial forces also seized 35 guns of various calibers, one walkie-talkie and a large quantity of other war means.

In one ambush made by the government troops in the forest area of Chikreng District, 25 enemy troops were annihilated, 27 captured, and seven others wounded. In addition, 29 enemy spies were unmasked and 50 rifles seized by the local authorities.

In the meantime, the province also received five enemy deserters including three ex-Polpotists and two Molinakans [members of pro-Sihanouk military group], bringing along one anti-tank rocket launcher, a rifle and two handgrenades.

Commentary on SOC Goodwill Toward Peace Effort

BK0502160391 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Station commentary: "What Does Cambodia's Peace Depends on?"]

[Text] While the world is focusing its attention with apprehension on the war in the Persian Gulf, Sihanouk, Son Sann, and Pol Pot are intensifying their propaganda to put the blame on the State of Cambodia [SOC] by accusing it of being a stumbling block to the restoration of peace in Cambodia. However, everyone already knows that the only party which wants to see peace and put an end to the Cambodian people's suffering caused by the war is the SOC. Over the past three years, the SOC government has sent its delegation 16 times to negotiations to settle the Cambodian problem, including seven direct talks with Sihanouk. Besides, the SOC Government has at all times welcomed the efforts displayed by the international community, in particular the endeavor of the UN Security Council [UNSC] to close the books on the Cambodian conflict, which has already dragged on for more 12 years thus far. Moreover, the SOC has welcomed four visits conducted by the UN fact-finding missions to Cambodia.

This is the SOC's genuine and unswerving goodwill in seeking peace for the Cambodian people. The leadership of the SOC Government has repeatedly stated that the war is abhorrent to the people and the national construction. For the sake of peace, the SOC Government has made great concessions one after the other, such as giving 50 percent of the seat in the Supreme National Council [SNC] to the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, accepting the role of the United Nations to organize elections in Cambodia, allowing the United Nations to head the five ministries which directly concern the elections, agreeing on the cantonment of not less than 100 soldiers, and so on.

In spite of this, peace is still not restored in Cambodia. This is because the other Cambodian side and its backers have no earnest willingness whatsoever to settle the Cambodian problem via peaceful means. Not only haven't they made concessions, but they have also ceaselessly demanded that the SOC Government be dissolved both politically and militarily contrary to the UN Charter. This is also a violation of Cambodia's national independence and sovereignty and a contempt for the right to self-determination of the Cambodian people. Furthermore, the demand is not only unfair but it is also a ploy to deliberately let the genocidal Pol Pot regime commit another slaughter against the Cambodian people.

People know that peace in Cambodia does not depend on dissolving the SOC Government's political and military structure and putting it under the UN auspices, but on the implementation of the people's right to self-determination through free and just elections. A great many countries worldwide have conducted elections under the arrangement of the existing authority with the international community present only as observer, and these elections are carried out with justice—the opposition can even win. In Cambodia, the SOC Government has allowed the United Nations to organize elections, to regroup forces and armaments in garrisons, and to monitor the ministries which will directly influence the elections. What else do they fear could harm a neutral climate in Cambodia? However, it is not right to demand that the SOC alone make concessions.

Waiting for a settlement of the Cambodian problem, the SOC National Assembly has recently delayed its term for another year. If the other Cambodian side has no intention of bringing a genuine peace to the Cambodian people, the latter will conduct the parliamentary election in 1992 in conformity with a democratic system and the SOC Constitution.

In sum, peace in Cambodia depends on the Cambodian parties' joint efforts to solve their internal affairs with sincerity and goodwill and on the concerned countries' respect for Cambodia's independence and sovereignty and the UN Charter.

The Cambodian people want to have only a genuine and lasting peace without the recurrence of the genocidal regime. Their rational desire is welcomed and backed by international public opinion. By all means, if the countries involved attempt to manipulate the people's sacred aspiration, peace can never come to Cambodia. The protracted war is due to the lack of goodwill by the other Cambodian side, which continues to remain indifferent to the Cambodian people's fair and just desire and which continues to maneuver with the aim of returning the genocidal regime in order to stage another killing field in the country.

Editorial: 'Reaching a Genuine Political Solution'

BK2801092591 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 27 Jan 91

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "Reaching a Genuine Political Solution for Cambodia"]

[Text] Within the next few days, the two cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC], namely France represented by Mrs. Edwige Avice, French minister in charge of external affairs and Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, will visit Vietnam and Thailand to inform them of the outcome of their Paris working session held in December with the Cambodian factions, and of the plan to hold the coming PICC Coordinating Committee meeting. This is an effort that we welcome and regard as a contribution to the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem.

More than anyone else, the State of Cambodia which has saved the Cambodian people from the genocidal Pol Pot regime has been launching all forms of resolute struggles to end the bloody conflict caused by the Cambodian opposition groups, through holding dialogue with the aim of bringing genuine and lasting peace to the Cambodian people. But, it is regrettable that the tripartite Pol Pot-Sihanouk-Son Sann groups, while clamoring that they love peace and pity the people, have colluded with each other to bring more destruction and misery, committing countless crimes against the people. They have resorted to perfidious maneuvers, using the political solution as a means to again put the Cambodian people's lives at stake in dealing with the genocidal regime. They have turned a blind eye and a deaf ear to the realities. They have grossly slandered and blamed the State of Cambodia for the deadlock to the peace talks for Cambodia saying the State of Cambodia has refused to accept the UN peace plan.

As a matter of fact, we have agreed with many points in the draft agreement. But, there are some fundamental points necessary for advancing the political solution to the Cambodian problem that need to be discussed further, clearly and thoroughly within the framework of the PICC Coordinating Committee and the Supreme National Council [SNC]. These pertain to Cambodia's sovereignty, such as the questions of cease-fire, regrouping of the armed forces, elections, the existing governments in Cambodia, and so forth.

Any discussion and decision on the Cambodian problem must first consider the real interests of the Cambodian people. Particularly, they must clearly specify concrete measures to prevent the genocidal Pol Pot regime's return to power on the basis of respect for the UN Charter and the Cambodian people's right to self-determination. Point Seven, Article Two, Chapter Four of the UN Charter stipulates that no regulations of the charter permit the

United Nations to intervene in defense matters under the national jurisdiction of a state. Therefore, if the UN draft agreement on the Cambodian solution does not clearly separate the internal from the international aspects of the Cambodian problem and does not clearly define the role and mission of a UN mechanism in Cambodia, it would be easy to violate the sovereignty and Cambodian people's right to self-determination. This is unacceptable. We sternly condemn the tripartite coalition whose speech does not match its deeds and who do not possess the goodwill to seriously contribute to realize a political solution to the Cambodian problem quickly. They must bear full responsibility for the protraction of the war and the sufferings of the Cambodian people.

We express confidence that the meeting between the two PICC cochairmen and the Vietnamese and Thai leaders will bring new progress to the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem. We appeal to all parties concerned to show genuine goodwill in making a peaceful contribution to the Cambodian problem and to directly deal with this problem, namely by permanently eliminating the despicable genocidal Pol Pot regime.

On the side of the State of Cambodia Government, we are always ready to continue contributing in order to rapidly realize a political solution that would bring about a genuine and lasting peace for the Cambodian people.

Indonesia

Suharto Wants Continued Monitoring of Gulf War

BK0602093791 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Excerpt] President Suharto, who chaired a limited Cabinet meeting on economics, finance, and industry at the Bina Graha Presidential Office in Jakarta today, called on the Gulf war impact monitoring center to continue monitoring all developments, particulary in the economic field, so that steps can be taken to overcome problems that arise.

Following the limited Cabinet meeting, Information Minister Harmoko said in view of that, President Suharto has requested the foreign minister to relay information from Indonesian embassies overseas to enable the government to anticipate further appropriate steps.

During the meeting, President Suharto also issued directives on the development of Bintan Island as a follow up to President Suharto's talks with Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong on the development of the growth triangle. [passage omitted]

Daily Says Country Not Target of Terrorism

BK0602100091 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0600 GMT 6 Feb 91

[From the press review]

[Text] ANGKATAN BERSENJATA says Indonesia is not a target of international terrorism but the authorities will remain vigilant. Commenting on a remark by Armed Forces Commander General Try Sutrisno on the government's firm stand toward the possible threat of foreign terrorists entering the country, this daily notes that foreign terrorists, if there are any, will target foreign embassies and trade offices belonging to countries which send troops to Saudi Arabia. Therefore, it is necessary to tighten the security of such offices without reducing our vigilance on the country's points of entry, such as airports and harbors.

As for the Garuda Indonesian Airways being a target of terrorist attacks, this daily says there is little chance of such a thing occuring because Indonesia did not send troops to Saudi Arabia.

Alatas Returns From Bangkok, Hanoi; Views Talks

BK0502124191 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas has reiterated that efforts to settle the Cambodian issue must continue in spite of the Gulf war involving big powers. Minister Ali Alatas made the remarks at the Sukarno-Hatta Airport this afternoon upon arrival from a 4-day trip to Vietnam and Thailand where he explained the basic framework of the settlement of the Cambodian issue to the four factions. He said that his visit to Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi corresponded with the plan set by Indonesia and France.

According to Minister Ali Alatas, Vietnam accepted the basic framework put forward by Indonesia and France as cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia. In addition, Vietnam was also prepared to support efforts by the cochairmen to achieve a consensus on matters to be discussed later.

Meanwhile, Thailand has also agreed to accept the basic framework on Cambodia in addition to giving whatever assistance to push forward the convening of [words indistinct] talks.

AFP Reports Further

BK0502145491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1430 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 5 (AFP)—Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said here Tuesday his recent trips to Thailand and Vietnam were to discuss a draft peace agreement to end the long conflict in Cambodia and not to negotiate anything.

"The negotiations will only take place when we meet in the negotiating committee in the framework of the Paris conference," Mr. Alatas said shortly upon returning from a trip to Bangkok and Hanoi.

Indonesia and France are the co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC) that was suspended in September 1989 after the four warring Cambodian factions failed to agree on a power sharing arrangement.

Mr. Alatas, French Minister Delegate for Foreign Affairs Edwige Avice and U.N. Deputy Secretary General Rafeeuddin Ahmad visited Vietnam and Bangkok to discuss a draft peace agreement hammered out by the two co-chairmen which was based on a blueprint by the U.N. Security Council.

"The purpose of the visits was to give explanations, hear and note down comments and try to convince them (Bangkok and Hanoi) on the content of the draft but not to negotiate," Mr. Alatas said.

Mr. Alatas said the two chairmen agreed "it may be good" if they met again with members of the Supreme National Council (SNC) formed here in September to represent the sovereignty of the Cambodian nation and composed of two delegates from each of the three resistance factions and six from Phnom Penh. No date nor venue has yet been fixed for the meeting, which will also involve the 12 members of the PICC, Mr. Alatas said. He added Thailand had also expressed its readiness to help by arranging future meetings with all four warring factions—the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge and the two non-communist forces under Prince Norodom Sihanouk and former Premier Sonn San who are fighting the Hanoi-installed government in Phnom Penh.

Mr. Alatas, however, said the Bangkok-arranged meetings would not be in the framework of the PICC. He added he hoped the meeting between the co-chairmen and the SNC members could be followed by a meeting of the PICC Coordinating Committee where the draft peace agreement could be further discussed and pending issues settled. Ministers of the conference would then be able to sign a finalized draft.

Mr. Alatas said the remaining problems to be solved included how to tie in the SNC with the U.N. in a transition period in Cambodia, how to move towards military demobilization and how to prevent the recurrence of past policies and practices of the Khmer Rouge. The Khmer Rouge, the strongest of the three resistance factions, has been accused of mass genocide during its near four- year rule in Cambodia which ended after invading Vietnamese troops ousted them in 1979.

Under the U.N. plan the world body would administer the country in a transitionary period leading to elections and supervise the disarming and disbanding of the various factions.

SRV Official Views Bilateral, Cambodian Issues

BK0502141591 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 28 Jan 91 pp 1, 11

[Text] Jakarta, Sunday [27 January], MERDEKA—A Vietnamese parliamentary delegation led by Le Quang Dao has urged the Indonesian Government to immediately settle the issue of the continental shelf boundary on Natuna waters.

"Vietnam has interests in the Natuna archipelago because there are huge oil deposits there. An immediate solution is needed to avoid new conflicts," Hartono, vice chairman of the Interparliamentary Cooperation Board [BKSAP] of the House of Representatives quoted Le Quang Dao as saying when he visited the House of Representatives at Senayan, Jakarta on Saturday.

Earlier, the Vietnamese parliamentary delegation was received by House of Representatives Speaker Kharis Suhud accompanied by his deputies Saiful Sulun and R. Sukardi, BKSAP Chairman Susatyo Mardhi, and Sulaksono, secretary general of the House of Representatives. The 7-member delegation arrived in Indonesia on Friday and will be in Indonesia until the end of this month.

According to Hartono, the House of Representatives and the Vietnamese parliamentary delegation discussed various issues, including the enhancement of relations between the two parliaments in addition to the Natuna continental shelf boundary.

Le Quang Dao admitted that various facilities and infrastructures in his country were in disarray and far behind those of other countries due to almost 40 years of war.

Vietnam is determined to end its dependence on the Soviet Union and East European countries. Thus, it hopes for an immediate settlement of the issue of the continental shelf boundary on Natuna waters through various talks between the governments and parliaments, given this territory has huge oil deposits.

Touching on the Cambodian conflict, Le Quang Dao said that his country and other countries, including Indonesia, maintain a similar stance. A comprehensive solution must be immediately found. According to him, the basic matter has already been settled. What remains is for the Cambodians themselves to settle their internal problems.

Use of PRC Rocket To Launch Satellite Viewed

BK0502104391 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0935 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 05 (OANA-ANTARA)—The use of China's Long March rocket to launch Indonesia's communication satellite, Palapa B-4, will be very profitable, Tourism, Post, and Telecommunications Minister Susilo Sudarman has said.

The minister, in a hearing with Commission V of Parliament, said: "An exploratory team dispatched by the Ministry of Tourism, Post, and Telecommunications to China some time ago concluded the Chinese rocket could technologically be depended on to launch the Palapa B-4 and the cost would be cheaper than launching by rockets of other countries."

Furthermore, he added, China has made an attractive offer, namely by being willing to be paid through counterpurchase transactions, meaning China would be ready to import Indonesian commodities (for its own counsumption and for reexport) as payment for the launching.

Indonesia, he said, would send another team, this time involving representatives from the foreign and trade ministries, to China, after China had specified the counterpurchase payment more definitely.

Recently, Cacuk Sudariyanto, chief director of the State Telecommunications Company Perumtel, the leader of the exploratory team sent to China, said Indonesia would save 17 million U.S. dollars using the Chinese rocket to launch the Palapa B-4 compared to the cost of using a U.S. (NASA) rocket. "For Indonesia the important thing is that the Palapa B-4 is lauched on time in 1992," Minister Susilo said. Two other countries offering to launch the communication satellite are the United States and France.

Meanwhile, the minister reported that Indonesia had received a total rent of 16.2 billion in 1990 for the use of the transponders of Indonesia's Palapa communication satellite by other countries in Southeast Asia. Of the satellite's 48 transponders, 46 have been rented.

Air Transport Agreement Signed With PRC 31 Jan

BK3101153291 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The Indonesian and Chinese Governments have signed an air transport and civil aviation agreement. The agreement was signed in Jakarta today by Sobirin Misbakh, director general for air communications, and Hu Yizhou, director general of the Civil Aviation Administration of China. According to the director general for air communications, the agreement was the first one signed by the Indonesian and Chinese Governments after the two countries normalized their relations, and followed official talks in Beijing last November. In essence, the agreement stipulates that the Indonesian and Chinese airlines will begin initial flights four times a week next April.

Radio on Significance of Trade Ties With DPRK

BK0602064691 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0000 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] During his recent visit to Indonesia, DPRK Premier Yon Hyong-muk successfully expanded the trade agreement with Indonesia, which was first initiated in 1963. As of last year, bilateral trade was still insignificant, namely at about $44 million with only about $10 million in Indonesia's favor.

Therefore, it is only natural to expand the 28-year-old trade link between the two countries in view of many changes which have taken place in the world and also because there is still room to expand such trade links. The DPRK itself needs a lot of Indonesian products, such as rubber, coffee, tea, cocoa, spices, palm oil, plywood, fertilizer, and pulp. In return, Indonesia may import various machinery, pumps, and (?oil tankers) from Pyongyang.

What is interesting to note is that the two countries have agreed to increase bilateral trade volume through a countertrade system and the establishment of joint venture projects. It is clear here that both sides stress the importance of complementing each other's needs. In view of the increasingly interdependent world, priority must also be given to improving efficiency.

Indonesia, which still produces plenty of agricultural products and raw materials, attaches great importance to efforts to market its products overseas because the exportation of such products will greatly help farmers in Indonesia. While many industries which process agricultural products have been set up in our country, many more should be set up. Indonesia is also expected to face competition from other developing countries which still depend on the revenues of their agricultural products.

As such, we must fully understand the significance of the countertrade system, while efforts to increase the value of agricultural products must not stop. Our current positive momentum must not only be maintained, but also increased because we must anticipate new challenges during the coming take-off economic stage, including the possible reduction of foreign assistance. History shows that no country, however advanced, is able to exist alone without other countries cooperation. Therefore, cooperation for mutual benefit is still needed as long as it is based on mutual respect, noninterference in other countries internal affairs, and respect for other countries different ideologies.

Laos

Phoumi Vongvichit Attends LFNC Opening Session

BK0602094591 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] An ordinary enlarged session of the Lao Front for National Construction [LFNC] committees of six northern provinces was opened in Sayaboury Province this morning. Attending the opening ceremony as guest of honor was Phoumi Vongvichit, chairman of the LFNC Central Committee. The session was attended by more than 150 LFNC representatives from Sayaboury, Luang Prabang, Oudomsai, Luang Namtha, Phong Saly, and Bokeo Provinces.

During the session, the front representatives will hear reports on the overall activities and achievements of the provincial fronts in the past year and on general guidelines for the implementation of the front's work for this year. They will also hear reports on the activities of the fronts in the represented provinces, beginning with the host, Sayaboury Province. In addition, the representatives from each province will present and exchange lessons they have learned from implementing the front's work in their localities.

The session will last three days, during which Phoumi Vongvichit will deliver a speech to the representatives.

In previous years, the ordinary enlarged sessions of the LFNC were held at four different places throughout the country—in Vientiane, Xieng Khouang, Saravane, and Oudomsai Provinces.

Meeting Held on U.S.-Lao Development Program

BK0602113191 Vientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Vientiane, Feb 6 (KPL)—The Lao-American rural development project in Houa Phan organized here on February 4 a meeting of its directory board and technicians of the project to assess its operation in the past period of over one year and to work out the 1991's action plan. The recapitulatory meeting was also attended by a project consultant attached to the U.S. Embassy in Laos.

The meeting has set objectives of this year's action plan, including the construction of laterite roads between Hiam and Son Districts, and from Houa Meuang to Pakha Naleng, the preparation for the construction of a medium-sized irrigational facilities on Nam Peun, Nam At and Nam Ngao Rivers. In particular, the Nam Peun irrigation project is to start soon. The Lao-American project has also objectives to build office buildings and training centres in Hiam and Son Districts, build a dispensary in Viangthong District, to organize training courses and experiment in crops cultivation such as high-yielding temperate crops in replacement of poppy plantation.

The objectives also envisage the dispatchment in the near future of more than 10 technicians to manage the grass-roots construction in Houa Meuang and Viangthong Districts.

Over the past one year of operation, the Lao-American integrated rural development project has fulfilled a number of projects such as the cutting of a road with a total length of 70 km between Hiam and Son Districts, the design of an irrigational facility, a new settlement, and an office building in Houa Meuang District, the holding of two training courses on an alternative farming to replace shifting cultivation in Houa Meuang and Viangthong Districts.

Defense Minister Receives Greetings From Poland

BK0602065691 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] General Khamtai Siphandon, minister of national defense, recently received a message of greetings from Vice Admiral Piotr Kolodziejczyk, minister of national defense of the Republic of Poland. The message reads:

On the occasion of the 42d anniversary of the Lao People's Army [LPA], on behalf of all corps of the Polish Armed Forces, the leading committee of the National Defense Ministry, and in my own name, as always, I would like to convey to you sincere greetings and best wishes of great achievements in the strengthening of the armed forces which have safeguarded peace and carried out general development work in your country. I also have the honor of taking this occasion to wish you, beloved minister, success in carrying out state affairs. On my own behalf, I wish you good health and happiness.

Philippines

Aquino Discusses Next Round of U.S. Bases Talks

HK0602133091 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] The Philippines and the United States may now outline a new agreement in the next round of meetings of the Philippine and American panels regarding the U.S. military bases in the country. This was the belief expressed by President Aquino while assuring that this agreement is geared toward the general welfare of the Filipino people.

The next round of bases talks is slated for next week here in the Philippines.

Tightens Security for Armitage Visit

HK0602141491 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] President Aquino today ordered the authorities to tighten security in the country in view of the arrival of U.S. negotiator Richard Armitage in relation to the forthcoming fifth round of the U.S. military bases talks.

The president warned the National Democratic Front, which is expected to create trouble when the talks resume.

In the forthcoming bases talks the president will ask the United States to forward additional compensation for the stay of the U.S. military bases in the country.

Biazon: Military Alert for 'Terrorist Activities'

HK0602130891 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] The Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] continues to monitor the possible occurrence of Gulf-related terrorist activities in the country. This was disclosed today by AFP Chief of Staff Rodolfo Biazon.

In an interview at the Senate, Biazon directly stated that the military, in coordination with other agencies of the government, is reinvigorating its surveillance through overt and covert military measures regarding the possible entrance of foreign terrorists into the country. According to Biazon, the military is doing the best it can to ensure that any terrorist attempt by symphatizers of Saddam Husayn will not succeed. The military chief also said that among the precautionary measures already taken were the deportation of the Iraqi consul general and two Iraqi students.

Military, Communist Rebels Unable To Launch Coup

HK0602054491 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Rodolfo Biazon said that military rebels and communist insurgents do not have the capability to launch a new coup d'etat due to lack of support. According to him, the military rebels' plan to overthrow the current administration no longer stands. Biazon's statement is based on the arrests of leaders of the right wing group responsible for the past coups. He further said that the military rebels could sow terrorism, particularly in Metro Manila, by bombing government installations. This is a way of scaring the people.

Stability Situation Restrains Japanese Investors

HK0602051291 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 6 Feb 91 p 2

[Text] Until the peace and order situation improves and the economy stabilizes, the Philippines can expect a trickle of new Japanese investments to come in, and thus, stay as the cellar dweller among the ASEAN countries insofar as cornering a slice of new investments from that economic giant is concerned.

The peace and order situation, more than factors such as restrictive investment laws, was identified by Masao Kushi, executive director of the Japanese External Trade Organization (Jetro), as the strongest deterrent to the pouring of Japanese investments here.

He said it is not only the bombings and the coup attempts in the past, but actual incidents involving Japanese nationals that has perpetuated the negative impression and scared off businessmen.

"From the airport to Makati alone, several Japanese businessmen have been held up, with their cars being blocked by armed men along the way. And it still happens sometimes," he said.

The Jetro director said the Japanese Embassy has already brought the matter up to the authorities, but nothing much has changed.

Among other factors, this has resulted in prospective investors distancing away from the Philippines and opting to sink their capital elsewhere in Asia such as Thailand and Indonesia. Vietnam, Mr Masao said, has also generated a lot of interest, with many businessmen flying over there to survey the prospects if not actually invest.

Compounded by the Gulf crisis which has made the Japanese wary of leaving their country because of security risks, the Philippines can, thus, expect a slowdown in Japanese investments in 1991.

From January to November last year, however, figures from the Board of Investment [BOI] showed the BOI-approved equity investments (under E.O. [Executive Order] 226 of Japan in the Philippines reached P [peso] 7.2 million, 121 percent higher than the year ago level of 3.2 million.

The figure is the highest among the Asian countries, comprising 42 percent of the total. In fact, the Japanese were the biggest foreign investors in the Philippines from 1986 to 1990 with total direct equity infusion amounting to P4.5 billion, based on figures from the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"The Japanese, for sure, will still have interests in the Philippines, but more will come after Gulf war or when the general situation here improves. Labor here is still relatively cheap and the workforce has shown great adaptibility in learning new techniques. This is a good site, although the problem of sourcing raw materials is still there. Much has to be imported," the Jetro director noted.

Another deterrent to investments mentioned by Mr Kushi was the 9 percent import levy which other Asian countries do not impose. He said although it is supposed to be temporary, it has lessened the competitiveness of the Philippines paticularly with its ASEAN neighbors.

The not-so-rosy scenario for the year may mean that the Philippines will again occupy the last slot among the ASEAN member countries in the share of Japanese investments.

For 1989, based on figures given by Jetro, the number of authorized Japanese investments in the Philippines reached 87 and the total value of $202 million.

This pales in comparison with those of Thailand, Malaysia, Taiwan, Indonesia and Singapore which respectively got 403, 159, 165, 140 and 181 with equity values of $1,276 million, $673 million, $494 million and $1,902 million.

Cumulative average of investments over the years showed RP [Republic of the Philippines] also at the bottom, the aggregate amount totalling $1,322 million behind Thailand, Malaysia and Taiwan which respectively recorded $3,268 million, $2,507 million and $2,285 million.

Many Japanese overseas investments involve labor-intensive industries such as electronics, wire harness manufacturing and metal processing—usually for reexport to Japan.

Mr Masao Kushi said this is due to the exhorbitant labor costs in Japan which has sent its businessmen investing in other countries to cut down overhead costs.

Military Rebels Purugganan, Batac Captured

HK0602103691 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Consolidated report by reporters Deo Macalma, Dick Sinchongo, Vic Pambuan, and Joe Taruc; italicized passages in English]

[Excerpts] Renegade Major Abraham Purugganan, leader of the Young Officers Union [YOU], was captured at 1220 this morning in front of Pinausukan Restaurant, Pasay Road, Makati. Maj. Purugganan, an official of the Army Scout Rangers and leader of the military rebels in the seizure of Ayala Center during the December 1989 coup attempt, was captured by the military agents of ISAP [Intelligence and Security Agency of the Philippines] while riding in a maroon-colored Galant Sigma with plate number DBY443.

The captors were agents Capt. Acuba and Sgt. Romy Reyes of ISAP in cooperation with two Makati policemen, Patrolman 1st Class [PFC] Jose Pangilinan and PFC Modesto Tejada of the Southern Police District. According to the aforementioned policemen:

[Begin recording] [Pangilinan] They asked help from us because they were pursuing somebody. And so we joined the pursuit. They blocked the car, and so did we. Then we were all pointing our guns at the man but we didn't know who that man was. When he was already captured, we found out that he was Maj. Purugganan.

[Tejada] They called on me because the man did not want to get out of his car. Then I told the ISAP men not to shoot the man because I did not think he would resist. And then I asked who they were and they identified themselves and presented their identifications. One of them whispered to me that the man in the car was Maj. Purugganan. I approached the car and requested the man to get out of his car to avoid further trouble and warned him of the physical risks he was taking. Then after a while, he got out. He did not resist or attempt to escape. He was just sitting quietly but he refused to get out of his car right away. He was pale. [end recording]

PFC Pangilinan and PFC Tejada were also promised by ISAP agents that they would be given commendations by Chief of Staff Lt Gen. Rodolfo Biazon for their assistance in the arrest of renegade Maj. Purugganan. Aside from this, they are expecting to get a share of the 1 million peso reward for the head of Purugganan. According to reports, other rightist rebel leaders have also been captured. [passage omitted]

President Aquino was happy to receive the news about the capture of renegade Maj. Abraham Purugganan from Chief of Staff Lt Gen. Rodolfo Biazon. Biazon further explained:

[Begin Biazon recording]*He was captured in Makati at about 1230 this afternoon. And the arrest was effected by combined elements of military intelligence and Makati police. This is a result of the mount of surveillance and there was no resistance in the capture. And I think you know the background of Purugganan and I don't have to tell you about it. [passage omitted]*

Naturally, the president is pleased towards the capture, and we will continue on our efforts to capture the others. Remember, I told you two months ago that they will fall one by one. And the capture of Purugganan came after the capture of Bibit, and I think there will be others.[end recording]

President Aquino also announced that another big personality in the rebel soldiers movement was captured aside from Purugganan.

Meanwhile, Philippine Navy chief Rear Admiral Mariano Dumangcas was very pleased to hear about the capture of the alleged leader of the Young Officers Union, Maj. Abraham Purugganan, by ISAP of Camp Aguinaldo at 1230 this afternoon.

According to Rear Admiral Dumangcas, the arrest of Purugganan is a great demoralizer to the rebel soldiers movement wanting to overthrow the government. He also said that the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] has already devoted a long time in the pursuit and capture of military rebels headed by Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan.

[Begin Dumangcas recording] We in the Navy are happy about the news that one of the leaders of the ultraright group has been captured, because our people will know that all the major forces in the Armed Forces have orders to pursue and capture these military rebels who are still at large. It means that we in the Navy are investing time, personnel, and money for this program to capture the rebels, especially the Navy people who are members of the ultraright group. So with the capture of Maj. Purugganan, this may be, first of all,*this should be another big blow to their movement,*and considering that Maj. Purugganan *is considered one of the core leaders of the movement.* [end recording] [passage omitted].

The president was pleased to receive news of Purugganan's capture, and said that aside from Purugganan there is another rebel officer who was captured. Although the president did not mention the name of the other military rebel who fell, Makati Police Station Commander Remy Macaspac revealed that the other one arrested was Navy Captain Victor Batac.

Case Against Honasan, Others Formally Filed

HK0502150191 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief of Staff Lt Gen. Rodolfo Biazon formally filed a case of coup d'etat against renegade Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan and 31 others involved in a plot to overthrow the government. Also accused was businessman Vicente Puyat.

This is the first coup d'etat case under the new constitution forwarded to the Department of Justice. According to reports, Puyat was included in the accusation after he was implicated by the rebel soldiers in relation to the failed attempt to bomb the air force fifth fighter wing in an air base in Pampanga on 21 December last year.

Court Martial Clears Rebels; Suspects Listed

HK0502150591 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Twelve officials and 22 enlisted personnel of the Philippine Army implicated in the 28 August 1987 and 1

December 1989 mutinies were cleared and released, based on the ruling of General Court Martial No. nine, headed by Brig Gen. Raul Imperial.

Among those released were Col. Antonio Romero, Lt Col. Jerry Albano, Capt. Ernesto Lasco, Capt. Andres Padregalan, 2d Lt. Edgardo Chua, Capt. Rosalino Baylen, 2d Lt. Emmanuel Tubungbanwa, Capt. Evaristo Bilog, and 2d Lt. Emmanuel Sinugba.

Meanwhile, those suspected of being involved in the 28 August coup d'etat are Capt. Lorenzo Bermudez, 2d Lt. Benny Silva, and 2d Lt. Cesario Almendral.

Aquino: No Peso Devaluation, Depreciation

HK0502131191 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Report by Dick Sinchongco]

[Excerpt] President Cory Aquino assured that there will be no devaluation or depreciation of the peso as provided for in the memorandum of economic policy or letter of intent of the government to be submitted to the IMF tomorrow. The president said the letter of intent does not contain the devaluation of the peso.

Nonetheless, the president explained:

[Begin Aquino recording, in English] Well, as much as possible, we will allow it to seek its own level, and, I think the, what we are also wanting is that our exports will be competitive with those of our neighbors. But if you saw at the federal exchange rate [word indistinct] this is what I have asked from both Governor Cuisia and Secretary Estanislao. I don't think there is a movement insofar as depreciation of the peso further.[end recording]

Following this, the president denied that there was any intention on the part of the government to conceal the contents of the letter of intent from the public. The Philippine delcgates will submit the letter of intent tomorrow to the IMF officials in Washington. [passage ommitted]

Senate President Views Relations With Malacanang

HK0502120891 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Report by Cesar Chavez]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In his courtesy call on Senate President Jovito Salonga, Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos said that he had asked for the suggestions of the Senate leadership on how to improve relations between the Senate and Malacanang, given that there is a need to outline a common legislative agenda.

[Begin Salonga recording, in English] Now, there will be major issues that will be facing the nation. I told Secretary Orbos to look for possible ways on which the thinking of the executive and the thinking of the majority in the Senate can be reconciled based on economic issues and on political issues like the bases agreement. [end recording]

Meanwhile, according to Senator Ziga, chairman of the Senate committee on public works and highways, one thing that can improve the relation between Malacanang and the Senate is the release of the remaining countryside development funds of the senators, which were not granted to them during the past year. [passage omitted]

Oscar Orbos Free To Shake Up Executive Office

HK0502035391 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 5 Feb 91 pp 1, 8

[By Amando Doronila]

[Text] Without her fully realizing it, President Aquino, in giving Oscar Orbos a free hand in shaking up the Executive Office from four years of stupor and paralysis, has in effect started the process of an orderly transfer of power leading to the 1992 presidential election.

She also created conditions for the selection, during the process, of a political dauphin in the person of Mr. Orbos, without having to formally pour ointment on his head. The observation that she should have transformed early in her term the Executive Office into a dynamic mechanism for change and speedy delivery of basic goverment services is at this time pointless.

The President is enjoying a renewal with the people, but her reengagement with them serves merely to give grace and dignity to her inevitable exit. Power is being effectively delegated to Mr. Orbos and he is exercising them on behalf of Mrs. Aquino with the passion of a man who knows time cannot be lost.

Mrs. Aquino is being effectively phased out without being humiliated, and Mr. Orbos is being phased in. Indeed, the transition to 1992 makes Mrs. Aquino look good—she is now seen as going back to the people, althrough it should be stressed that this renewal has been made possible by the dismantling of the Malacanang bureaucratic structures that for more than four years had isolated her from the people and their impulses.

It does not matter whether the next 14 months before the elections will give Mr. Orbos sufficient time to gain momentum for a presidential bid. It took more than two years for a Ramon Magsaysay to propel a presidential movement as the man of the hour. But in the case of Mr. Orbos, what is important is that he is in the right place at the right time, and that is what is pivotal in political leadership change.

One can only have a proper appreciation of the change in the leadership style of this government afer considering the bitter internal debate in the palace over the streamlining plans of Mr. Orbos. The clash between Mr. Orbos and the finance secretary, Jesus Estanislao, the champion of the structural paralysis faction inside the palace, is captured in a sharp exchange of memos early last month.

Following this exchange, Mr. Orbos' activist point of view was apparently backed by the President, leading to the issuance of Executive Order [EO] No. 446, reorganizing the Office of the President. By virtue of this EO, more heads are going to roll in the palace and a shakeup looms in a strategic office over who will be the presidential spokesman. The mini-sweeping operations in Malacanang are certainly not over.

But the exchange between Mr. Orbos and Estanislao reveals the issues over which the Orbos and the Estanislao camps fought. Mr. Estanislao's point of view was shared by the bureaucratic enclaves which impeded quick decision-making and made of the presidency a cumbensome institution unable to respond effectively to crises. Mr. Estanislao was an exponent of the so-called cluster system in which key Cabinet members were organized and issues were distributed for study. Mr. Orbos dismantled these multi-layered decision making structures and clusters, except Cluster E (on security, justice and law enforcement).

The debate was provoked by the Jan. 3 memo of Mr. Estanislao, whose cluster was wiped out, to Mr. Orbos. The memo had the condescending and rebuking tone of a university lecturer talking down to undergraduates in a seminar. It also betrayed the insecurity of Cabinet members who felt threatened with the loss of power.

The memo to Mr. Orbos said:

"1. In your constituency-building efforts, I must underscore the importance of getting the Cabinet to work with you.

"2. Getting the Cabinet working with you as a team, that is solid for the President's effectiveness, it is necessary that the following premises are observed:

"a. The President's final and central prerogatives must be respected; she is the President, for whom all of us work and whom we serve.

"b. Cabinet members should not only feel involved; they must be actively involved. Given departmental and sectoral concerns, it is imperative that we observe a process of airing, hearing, and coming to a quick decison: these are three distinct phases. Disregard any one of them and we confuse, irritate everyone.

"3. Central to our system is the Executive branch. This means that as institutions:

"a. The presidency must be strengthened and rendered more effective.

"b. The Cabinet, as distinct from individual secretaries, must be reinforced so as to become an effective instrument of the President.

"4. As a consequence of all the above, may I ask that:

"a. More formal, scheduled meetings are arranged, with all the pre-processing and preparation. To be avoided: ad hoc informal meeting, called practically on the spot, with little evident preparation, and with no clear summary decisions in the end.

"B. Greater respect for the structures that are in place, improving them substantively as we move along. If the President is comfortable with the CAS (Cabinet Cluster System), the Clusters, and the regular Cabinet/Neda board meetings, I do not see why we should do away with them: after all, if these are the President's mechanisms for arriving at consensual decisions, we should respect her preference."

Of course, Mr. Orbos did not take this lecture on bureaucratic and structural paralysis lying down.

Reform of Executive Secretary's Role Viewed

HK0602045191 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 6 Feb 91 pp 1, 9

[By Amando Doronila]

[Text] The simmering conflict over the activist role of the executive secretary came to a head on Jan. 3 when the Finance Secretary, Jesus Estanislao, fired a scathing memo to the new executive secretary, Oscar Orbos. Returning fire with fire, Mr. Orbos on Jan. 14 issued an internal memo. With that the issue was joined. The outcome of the clash sealed the fate of the multilayered centers of decision-making in the Palace—a network that had imprisoned a weak President into a structure more confounding than the labyrinth of antiquity.

In his memo, Mr. Orbos said:

"I can assure you that I have a fairly clear view of what my role is vis-a-vis the President and members of her Cabinet. According to the Revised Administrative Code, the executive secretary shall, among others, directly assist the President in the management of the affairs pertaining to the government of the Republic of the Philippines.

"1. The President manages the affairs of government; I assist her directly. The department secretaries, on the other hand, are alter egos of the President in their respective areas of concern. This means that the views of Secretary (Senen) Bacani on agriculture or Secretary (Fidel) Ramos on national defense should carry more weight than my views or any other member of the Cabinet on agriculture and defense. By implication, in a presidential form of government, the Cabinet does not have a separate and distinct personality. Admittedly, this is not the case in a parliamentary system of government.

"2...On the need for Cabinet members to be actively involved, I believe that with the proposed streamlining of the OP (Office of the President) offices and systems, the role of department secretaries will inf act be enhanced.

"The present system where departmental proposals go through a long process of filtering—vis CAS (Cabinet Assistance System, Cabinet Clusters, and the Presidential Coordinating System)—has in fact curtailed initiative and quick response on the part of the secretaries.

"Under the new system, the expertise and knowledge of department secretaries will be recognized. Only in cases where there are interdepartment conflicts, as for example, tariff reforms and import levy, will the President or executive secretary intervene. And in the conflict resolution process, as we usually do, not all the Cabinet members have to be consulted.

"This will result in less time unnecessarily spent for meetings and consultations and more time for strategic planning and program implementation. I am confident that you will agree with me on the following point: that this government, or any other government, will be judged not on the basis of the number and length of meetings and consultations held, but on the basis of its ability to deliver the basis and other needed services to the people.

"The powers and prerogatives of the Presidency are not dminiished one bit as a result of the proposed streamlining of the Office of the President. But, if as a result of the administrative reforms, public support for the President is enhanced and public services better provided, then the Presidency is strengthened. Nevertheless,...in a presidential form of government, the Cabinet does not have and should not have a distinct and separate personality. A corollary proposition is that as the power of the Cabinet increeases, the power of the Presidency decreases.

"4. (a) I share with you the need for a formal, scheduled meeting. Thus, subject to the approval of the President, items for Cabinet deliberation should be limited to those that have been the subject of in-depth review and analysis of the relevant staff (NEDA) [National Economic Development Agency] secretariat for NEDA matters, National Security Council permanent secretariat for security and political development matters, and the technical services group (merged Cabinet Assistance System and Presidential Management Staff) for the rest.

"(b) I can assure you that the proposed streamlining is based on a careful study of the Office of the President and its existing staff support systems.

"It is based on a genuine concern for the development of a productive mechanism for faster and better delivery of public services.

"It allows the department secretaries and undersecretaries more time for planning and program implementation.

"It avoids the unnecessary delays due to excessive filtering.

"It also means greater respect for existing institutions. For example, it means allowing NEDA to perform its job. All the existing Cabinet Clusters, except Cluster E, have counterpart committees at NEDA...Thus, the Cabinet Cluster system does not only duplicate existing government mechanism. it also undermines the continued existence of well performing government institutions."

The signal that President Aquino backed Mr Orbos' streamlining plans and that he meant business was the acceptance of the resignation of Elfren Cruz as head of the PMS [Presidential Management Staff], one of the structural enclaves made redundant by the reorganization.

The administrative reform did away with at least half a dozen structures, including the clusters, and cleared the clogged conduits of decision-making. Thus, in the past about 50 people, including secretaries and undersecretaries; attended the Cabinet meetings. Now, only half attend.

Cabinet meetings used to be held once a week. The agenda was loaded with as many as two dozen items and meetings took more than four hours. Miriam Defensor-Santiago complained the meetings were extremely boring.

Now, only very important issues are on the agenda. The Cabinet has met only twice since last month.

In the past, secretaries and undersecretaries were in the palace nearly every day attending meetings of clusters and other filtering structures, which were no more than debating clubs. No wonder there was acute paralysis in the Executive branch.

But that convoluted system was convenient for Mrs Aquino's style of rule and approach to government. It kept tough problems away from her. In any case, everytime the problems came to her desk, she tossed them back like paper pulp for regurgitation and recycling into this bureaucratic treadmill, which ceaselessly was in motion. There the problems gave birth to more complications and came back to her with a vengeance, Mrs Aquino played hide and seek with problems—and the filtering system provided her the sanctuary but only for a time. Catalino Macaraig, an equally phlegmatic and unimaginative man, obsessed with routine, was ideal for such a system.

But when Mrs Aquino realized that such a system was sinking her government and pushing her to the destiny of being the worst government in terms of performance since the Commonwealth, she bowed to demand to make the Executive Office a more dynamic instrument of rule.

What Mr Orbos did was essentially to return the Executive Office and the executive secretary to their historic role as the main alter ego of the President—a role defined by the relationship between Jorge Vargas and President Quezon and further elaborated by executive secretaries of post-war presidents, until Mrs Aquino took over and disemboweled the presidency of its interventionist character with her strange notions of government alien to the traditions of the presidency and the political culture of the Filipinos.

Thus, Mr Orbos has virtually executed a coup that has sought to restore the executive secretary to its proper political role. The coup has realigned the presidency with the political experience of the Filipinos.

Certainly, there is yet very little substance or profound policy change involved in the Orbos reform in the palace. But given the deadweight of the Malacanang bureaucracies allowed by Mrs Aquino to proliferate, the realignment of the Executive Office with its historic function in the Filipino political system is at least a start towards making the system function. The distortions made by Mrs Aquino, and the treadmill system immortalized by Macaraig et al, nearly sent her government hurtling into the abyss of political collapse. Whether Mr Orbos can repair the damage with so little time in his hands is the problem.

Thailand

Deportation of 3 Arabs 'Precautionary Measure'

BK0602025591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 Feb 91 p A1

[By Sirot Sukphinyo]

[Text] Police have questioned and will deport three visitors from the Middle East out of 22 who have been blacklisted for possible connections with pro-Iraqi terrorist movements, a senior police official said yesterday.

Deputy Police Director General Pol Gen [Police General] Manat Khrutchaiyan told reporters that the interrogation of the three suspects produced inconclusive results but said they would be deported as a precautionary measure.

He said that the blacklist was drawn up because local police stations had been instructed to report to the Special Branch Division on "dubious activities" by some Middle Eastern visitors in Thailand.

Police will continue looking for the others on the blacklist and question them before deciding what to do, he said.

Thai authorities, meanwhile, are looking for a European country to deport five suspected terrorists after they were denied entry to Malaysia and Nepal, informed sources said.

The three Iraqis and two Jordanians posed as rice businessmen and entered Thailand before the Gulf War erupted on Jan 17, according to the sources.

Thai authorities have so far quietly deported 11 Iraqis and citizens of other Middle Eastern countries for fear that publicity would affect the tourist industry and investment climate in the country.

The five suspects are now being detained at Don Muang International Airport after four of them were sent back from Nepal and the other from Singapore.

Thai immigration officials initially tried to deport them all to Malaysia but they were returned immediately after Don Muang Airport authorities alerted their Malaysian counterparts about their journey.

"It's a matter of coordination between immigration officials and Don Muang officials. The former handled it quietly, trying to avoid attraction but the airport officials happened to notice something unusual about the passengers and informed their counterparts in Malaysia," said one source who asked not to be identified.

The five suspects did not have visa permits to stay here and Thai authorities did not want to detain them in the country too long.

"There's no good reason to detain them indefinitely," the source said.

Thai security officials had kept a close eye on the five suspects even before the Gulf War began.

Four of the five were identified as Iraqi Muhammad Mahmud, Iraqi Muhammad 'Ali, Jordanian Radi al-Shammari, and Jordanian Ahmad M.A. Ashnabisi. The identity of the other was not made available.

Muslims Donate Money To Support Iraq in Gulf War

BK0602092091 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 6 Feb 91 p 14

[Text] On 5 February at Thammasat University, a panel discussion was held entitled "Off-the-record Opinion: The Right Paths Concerning the Persian Gulf War." The main content of the discussion can be summed up as follows: The presentation of news and information on the current Persian Gulf War has to undergo several procedures, thus depriving people of opportunities to know about the real situation. This has created an image of the United States as a hero and Iraq as a villain. People will therefore have to consider carefully which information is correct.

Dr. Charan Malulim, participant in the panel discussion, said on behalf of the Thai Muslims that to consider the rightness or wrongness of Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, one must examine history. He said that no historian can deny that Kuwait does not belong to Iraq. If one looks back at the border demarcations of countries in the Middle East in the past, they will see that they were unfairly made by Western countries. For example, in the case of Syria and Lebanon, the demarcation was done with bias toward France.

However, Dr. Charan remarked, the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait cannot be accepted as a legitimate act, but the Muslim people can stand no more the U.S. desire to get rid of only one man, which has cost numerous Muslim deaths. Therefore, the Thai Muslims during last week collected a total of 40,000 baht and have already given it to Iraq. Moreover, the Thai Muslims also agree that Iraq should withdraw from Kuwait only if the Palestinian problem has been settled.

Chatchai on Upcoming Talks With Khmer Factions

BK0502145991 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Interview with Prime Minister Gen. Chatchai Chunhawan by unidentified correspondents at Government House in Bangkok on 5 February—recorded]

[Text] [Chatchai] I have invited the four Khmer factions to come to Bangkok. Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas already met with representatives of three Khmer factions, while the other faction could not come in time. I will tell the four factions that we have done our best to bring peace to Cambodia. I will ask them whether they will hold a meeting of the SNC [Supreme National Council] so that we can tell them what we can do to help Cambodia, such as helping prepare for a cease-fire and a general election.

[Correspondent] Do you think that we will receive cooperation from all four factions?

[Chatchai] We will have to try.

[Correspondent] It is reported that separate meetings will be held with each faction first. Is this true?

[Chatchai] Yes, I will meet with each faction separately in order to listen to the four factions first.

[Correspondent] Has a time been fixed for the meeting?

[Chatchai] It could probably begin next week. I just want to talk to them, for I know people in the four factions well.

[Correspondent] It is reported that Alatas failed to seek a disarmament of the Khmer factions during his talks with Vietnam.

[Chatchai] I don't know. He did not say whether the visit was a success or failure. There might be some achievements. I learned that the delegation of the three foreign representatives [UN Under Secretary General Rafiuddin Ahmad, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, and French Foreign Minister-delegate Edwige Advice] had gone to Vietnam. I did not ask them about this issue. I only told them that I would continue to try for a meeting with the four Khmer factions. We want the SNC to begin its work.

[Correspondent] Do you see any prospect of success?

[Chatchai] Yes, I do.

Commerce Official Views 'Deadlock' of GATT Talks

BK0402130391 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai
4 Feb 91 p 5

[Interview with Kroekkrai Chiraphaet, Commerce Ministry deputy permanent secretary in charge of foreign trade talks, by unnamed MATICHON correspondent—place, date not given]

[Excerpt] [Correspondent] What are the main causes for the failure of the GATT talks?

[Kroekkrai] The talks are aimed at seeking a compromise. If this cannot be achieved, further talks are unnecessary. The main obstacle is the farm product subsidy. If there is no progress on this issue, they do not want to agree on other issues. Under this situation, the EC has to reconsider how much flexibility they can give because they know that they are the cause of the problem. I think that they will adopt a more compromising attitude, but I do not know how far they will go. As far as I know, the majority want a commitment on reducing or lifting three trade subsidies—internal subsidy or production subsidy, export subsidy, and market opening. In the past, the EC insisted that they will reduce production subsidy by 30 percent but will not reduce export subsidy because they hold that the reduction in production subsidy will mean an automatic reduction in export subsidy. But we do not agree with this and insist that there should be no rebalancing because we do not know what other measures the EC will take which may affect us.

I understand that they will have to agree on reducing all three kinds of subsidies because they know that their image in the world is not so good and that they are the cause for the unsuccessful talks. I do not want to use the word failure.

[Correspondent] Which are the most influential countries that caused the meeting to deadlock?

[Kroekkrai] France and Germany, because these two countries produce a large amount of agricultural products. Before President Francois Mitterrand and Chancellor Helmut Kohl attended the GATT talks, they could do nothing and had to await the results of general elections. We knew that there would be no way for success after the general elections because during election campaigns they had to promise that there will be no reduction in subsidies. Moreover, they were not sure whether or not they would be able to form a government after their victories in the elections. So, if they annnounced subsidy reductions during the talks, people of both countries would reject it. In the past, France was very stubborn on this issue. It was a main obstacle to the renewing of the tapioca agreement the past few times. However, England is quite free on this issue and wants to get rid of it because it knows that subsidies are expensive for those who purchase agricultural products.

[Correspondent] What are the most interesting moves after the deadlock in the GATT talks?

[Kroekkrai] The GATT secretary general is on a visit to Latin America, Indonesia, and Australia. When he returns to Geneva, he will probably watch the attitude of the EC, ASEAN, and other countries. If an agreement on agricultural products cannot be reached, there will be no way to agree on other issues.

[Correspondent] Will the United States apply Section 301 against Japan and other countries?

[Kroekkrai] The United States would probably not apply it if there is any GATT agreement acceptable to the United States. However, it will not be right if the United States applies Section 301 against Thailand and Laos because we have never offended them. Diplomacy must be based on correctness and ethics. However, the reason they want to apply Section 301 is because they hold that everybody has been taking advantage of the United States, such as in copyright violations and not opening up markets for U.S. products, while everybody has enjoyed the U.S. market. [passage omitted]

Supreme Commander Sunthon Meets U.S. Ambassador

BK0502150991 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Supreme Commander Gen. Sunthon Khongsomphong said that the relationship between permanent government officials and political appointees is very interesting.

[Begin recording] [unidentified reporter] There have been many reports about clashes between permanent government officials and political nominees these days. What is your opinion?

[Sunthon] Well, don't touch the military. [end recording]

The supreme commander made the statement after a meeting with the U.S. ambassador to Thailand. The ambassador paid a courtesy call on Gen. Sunthon at the Supreme Command Headquarters on Sanam Suapa Road. The two exchanged views on security problems concerning Thailand and the United States. Thailand raised the subject of weapons procurement, including the purchase of airplanes, tanks, and heavy weapons. The United States said it is willing to give Thailand a discount. It also offered Thailand additional funds to help border villagers and scholarships for military students to study at academies in the United States.

The United States thanked Thailand for security protection at the embassies during the Persian Gulf war.

Chief of Staff: Thai-Lao Border Disputes Remain

BK0602033391 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 Feb 91 p 6

[Text] Despite efforts to redemarcate the Thai-Lao border, there remain 43 points along the frontier whose territorial status still cannot be agreed upon by the two countries, a senior military official said yesterday.

Gen Siri Thiwaphan, chief of staff, attached to the Supreme Command, said some of the disputed areas could be politically explosive.

Thailand and Laos fought a three-month border war about three years ago over the disputed Romklao Village at the edge of Phitsanulok's Chattrakan district. Negotiations are still going on in an attempt to solve the conflict.

Siri said apart from Romklao Village, three villages in Uttradit province remain trouble spots at the border.

Military sources have also expressed fears of a possible dispute over a Mekong River islet which is located close to the Thai bank but has been occupied by Laotians who are farming there with support from Thai financiers.

The sources said Laotian troops have been on patrol near the area, apparently to protect the Laotians occupying the islet.

Chatchai Reacts To Assassination Rumors in Press

BK0602032591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 Feb 91 p A1, A2

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan yesterday reacted angrily to rumours in the Thai-language press that people close to him were allegedly involved in assassination attempts against "a public figure in high places."

"None of the people close to me is a criminal," he snapped when asked by reporters to comment on the charges.

Chatchai said the reported assassination attempts occurred before he took over as prime minister and all questions related to the matter should be directed to the administration of former premier Gen [General] Prem Tinsulanon.

"Why don't you ask those who were in power in 1984 (when the alleged attempts were made)?" he said, referring to the year the plots allegedly took place.

Downplaying possible political repercussions of the case, Chatchai said that reporters should not be interested in old stories and instead should ask him about what the government plans to do in the future.

He also dismissed speculation that Pol Gen [Police General] Sawaeng Thirasawat was recently replaced as police director general because he had refused to derail the investigation into the alleged assassination attempts.

"There was no connection at all. Gen Sawaeng was moved out because this govrnment wanted to improve the performance and the image of the Police Department. Don't mix them up," he said.

He said that it was only natural that politicians would be slandered by their political rivals.

Government Spokesman M.R. Pridiyathon Thewakun earlier described the spreading of the rumours as a politically-motivated, mudslinging attempt to discredit the prime minister.

A stern-faced Chatchai said he would not longer answer reporters' questions if they continued to harass him with "nonsense questions."

Paper Speculates on Future Prime Minister

BK0202052591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 Feb 91 p A8

[Editorial: "Who Is Most Qualified?"]

[Text] M.R. Khukrit Pramoj dropped a bombshell earlier this week with his remark that Education Minister Gen Thianchai Sirisamphan is most qualified to be the next prime minister. His only shortcoming, however, is that the retired general's Ratsadon Party, with only 21 MPs, is too small and it may not grow any larger after the next general election.

The 80-year-old M.R. Khukrit added that he himself is too old and he would like to step down as leader of the Social Action Party [SAP] if a suitable person could be found to succeed him.

Many took this as M.R. Khukrit's open overture to Thianchai to take over the leadership of SAP, which is suffering from a serious revolt by the old guard members unhappy with secretary-general Montri Phongphanit. But Thianchai has politely dismissed any suggestion that he switch to SAP, saying that he has no ambition to become a prime minister.

M.R. Khukrit also irked many Democrats by saying that newly- elected Democrat leader Chuan Likphai is not yet qualified for premiership because he is relatively too young for the top government post and he may be unable to get along with the military.

The 66-year-old Thianchai reached the post of deputy army chief before his retirement. He has good ties with the Army; he and his party have clean but not outstanding political records. And his golf game is so-so. But we can easily find at least two others who can rival Thianchai's qualifications.

Gen Athit Kamlang-ek is one; Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut is the other. Both of them are former army chief and supreme commander. Athit is one step ahead of Chawalit in that his Puangchon Chao Thai, with 17 MPs, is already in action. Athit's party was coopted in the Chatchai coaliton last August and he has since served as deputy prime minister.

Chawalit, on the other hand, has just set up his New Aspiration Party. But he is in a much better position than Athit to vie for the premiership. Chawalit, who stepped down from the top army post last April, has vowed to do everything possible to become the next prime minster. His party has attracted a great deal of attention, especially from retired bureaucrats and MPs unhappy with their present parties. His party is reportedly well-funded. And most importantly, he has strong backing from the military, especially Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong and Army Commander Gen Suchinda Kraprayun who sees NAP as "a hope" for the people. Athit, however, has not such support in the military.

Two other former military men are also in the race; Gen Praman Adireksan, chief adviser to the Chat Thai Party, and Bangkok Governor Maj Gen Chamlong Simuang, leader of the Phalang Tham Party. Praman left the Army after attaining the rank of major general. He received the rank of police general when he was interior minister in 1989 and (army) general last month.

A group of Chat Thai MPs has been urging Praman to edge out Gen Chatchai Chunhawan first as Chat Thai party leader and next as prime minister. But so far the 77-year-old party adviser lacks the political clout to unseat Premier Chatchai.

Unlike most other aspirants, Chamlong who is in his mid 50s has time on his side. His party, with only 15 MPs (11 of them from Bangkok) has yet to expand to the provinces.

Army chief General Suchinda told THE NATION in an interview that the military will support every elected civilian premeir as long as his administration is "good" and serves public interest. This in effect removes the long-standing unwritten rule in Thai politics that only the Army can produce prime ministers acceptable to the military.

This means veteran politicians like Chuan, Solidarity party leader Narong Wongwan and Prachakon Thai party leader Samak Suntharawet are also qualified for the premiership. And younger politicans like SAP secrtetary-general Montri and Muangchon party leader Chaloem Yubamrung can continue to dream about rising to the zenith of power someday.

As we speculate on who will be the next prime minister, we cannot completely rule out the possibility that Premier Chatchai may not want to wash his hands from politics just yet. All indications so far indicate that he may try to come back for another term after the next general election if he can really have his way.

So for the moment, this guessing game is far from over.

Army Commander Suchinda Interview, Part Two

BK0202060591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 Feb 91 p A8

["Excerpts" of second part of interview with Army Commander General Suchinda Khraprayun with senior editors from THE NATION in Bangkok on 29 December]

[Text] [Question] How is your programme to modernize the Army going?

[Suchinda] It's my policy to reduce the size of the Army and rely more on our reservists. But there are still laws that will have to be amended to facilitate this move. For example we cannot simply stop the draft, fill all the units with volunteers and pay them like professional soldiers the way many developed countries are doing. But it is a fact that a standing army of professionals has a much higher degree of capability and combat readiness than a conscripted army.

Under the present system, about one half or one-third of the army personnel are new draftees replacing those who have completed their military service. These new guys need at least a year of training to get in shape and ready for combat duty. This is a weakness that can be avoided when we have a volunteer army which doen't lose a large number of men in annual discharges.

With a smaller but more efficient army, time and expenses in training can be reduced and diverted to improving the quality of reservists, especially those who are under the territorial defence programme. At present we must admit that almost all the young men join the programme in order to avoid conscription. (Teenagers who have completed three years of the territorial defence training become reservists and are automatically exempted from conscription.)

[Question] Do you have any specific modernization programme which you intend to pursue?

[Suchinda] I have been trying to increase the military capability of the Army through acquiring modern arms and equipment. But this involves a great deal of money. For example the money spent in setting up a single armoured division is enough to form at least five infantry divisions. A modern anti-aircraft artillery division will cost even more. I remember that we were talking about acquiring Hawk and Nike ground-to-air missiles while I was still a young sub-lieutenant some 30 years ago. Yet we couldn't because of their prohibitive cost. And now they (the US and its allies) have switched to the Patriot ... but we still haven't laid our hands on the Hawk and Nike.

[Question] So how are you going to overcome the budget constraints?

[Suchinda] I think we will have to design military spending to correspond with economic growth. When we have more precious economic assets to protect, like oil wells and petrochemical complexes, then we will have to defend (them) with modern and reliable arms.

[Question] Didn't the Army buy a large number of helicopters phased out from the US forces?

[Suchinda] Yes we have. These helicopters are still 80-90 percent in good condition. We can keep them flying for quite a long time if we maintain them properly. And we got them under a good deal, just like our purchase of the US M-60 tanks.

[Question] What is the latest about our purchase of the M-60s?

[Suchinda] Just a few days ago we heard from the US Embassy that the price of the tanks would be reduced further. An agreement was already signed for the first lot of 50 M-60s, a second agreement for another 50 tanks would be signed soon.

Our main problem, however, is money; we don't have enough money even though the premier approves of the purchase.

I raised this problem in the Defence Council's meeting the other day. This is our golden opportunity to acquire the tanks and helicopters at a bargain. But all our remaining budget allocation is fully committed to a number of long-term programmes. As things stand now, I'm not in a position to buy any new arms until 1993—the year I retire from the Army. So we need a special budget allocation.

[Question] Have you re-evaluated your perception about national security since you assumed control of the Army, especially now that the so-called Cold War at the global level has ended?

[Suchinda] My perception hasn't really changed much. As a career military man my first concern is always to keep our army competent and fully ready for any emergency. Nobody can really tell what may happen in the future. Just look at the Gulf War. Iraq simply invaded and took over Kuwait out of the blue.

We certainly have to develop and maintain friendly relations with all countries, especially our immediate neighbours. But we must also keep in mind that the national interests of different countries will clash sometimes. The best way to deal with these conflicts is through diplomacy but diplomacy is potent only when it is backed by a strong military defence.

Yes, we have heard a lot about the end of the Cold War; the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan and the changes in Eastern Europe. This is all good news. But we must continue to keep abreast of developments in nighbouring countries to see what their armed forces are doing.

[Question] How is the Thai armed forces compared with those in neighbouring countries?

[Suchinda] I can assure you that the Royal Thai Army is inferior to no one in this region in terms of military capability.

[Question] What is your view of the US military in the Philippines?

[Suchinda] I think the US military presence there has benefitted Thailand.

[Question] Is it feasible to transform Asean into a security bloc to replace the US military presence?

[Suchinda] This is one line of thought in Asean. We are all aware of the fact that we cannot continue to rely on the US indefinitely. But this is not to say that Asean collectively can replace the US; the military capabilities of the two are not comparable.

[Question] Has the US ever approached Thailand about deploying military forces in Thailand, particularly at U-taphao (the base for US Air Force B-52s during the Vietnam War)?

[Suchinda] No. They merely inquire about our views of the US military presence in the Philippines, especially if the US bases there will have to be closed in the near future.

We have informed them that we would like to see a continued US military pressence in the Philippines. I think this is a view widely held in Asean.

[Question] How is your relationship with Asean military leaders?

[Suchinda] Since I assumed my commander position the only Asean country I have visited is Singapore. But I will visit other Asean countries as soon as possible. Our ties are close and cordial. We have our channels of direct contacts among Asean military leaders. And I can tell you that we (Asean military leaders) treasure our warm and sincere relationships.

My relations with the military leaders of Laos and Burma are also close and cordial: I have been invited to visit Laos in February.

There have also been invitations from the USSR, India and Pakistan, etc. In February, the Pakistani army commander will visit Thailand. But I will have to complete my tour of the remaining Asean countries first before going elsewhere.

[Question] On Cambodia, do you intend to push for a resolution of the conflict within this year?

[Suchinda] This is not something that the Army can handle by itself; it's an international problem. The ex-army chief (Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut) was directly involved before of his long experience in Cambodia; in fact he was there even before the Vietnamese invasion of the country in late 1978.

At present there is a national committee handling Thailand's Cambodia policy chaired by the foreign minister. The army chief and a few others are on this committee. But since the resignation of ACM [Air Chief Marshall] Sitthi Sawetsila as foreign minister last August, there has been no meeting of this committee.

Since Sitthi's departure, we have two foreign ministers but they may not know about this Cambodia policy committee.

[Question] What do you hope to see in Cambodia after a political settlement?

[Suchinda] I believe in the principle of self-determination without foreign interference. The Cambodians should have full freedom to choose their political system and their leaders.

Vietnam

Government Reviews Trade Talks With USSR

BK0602042391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] On 4 February, the standing committee of the Council of Ministers reviewed the results of talks and the signing of various agreements on strengthening economic and trade cooperation between our country and the Soviet Union for 1991 and the ensuing years.

The standing committee of the Council of Ministers heard Comrade Phan Van Khai, chairman of the State Planning Commission and head of the Vietnamese delegation, report on the results of talks from 23 to 31 January with the Soviet delegation led by Comrade Voronin, first vice chairman of the Soviet Committee for Planning, on the Vietnam-USSR agreement on economic and trade cooperation for 1991, and on the agreement on the need to switch to a new mechanism in economic and trade cooperation between the two countries.

The standing committee of the Council of Ministers highly evaluated the vital significance of the newly-signed documents and affirmed that the relations of all-round cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union will pave the way for the economic organizations of the two countries to expand economic cooperation in 1991 and ensuing years on the basis of the new mechanism, thereby contributing positively to the fulfillment of various targets set forth for socioeconomic development and the stabilization of life in our country.

In 1990, the volume of goods, equipment, and materials exchanged between the two countries amounted to approximately $1 billion.

The Soviet Union pledged to supply Vietnam with such vital commodities as gasoline, oil, fertilizer, iron, steel, and cotton and other goods. Meanwhile, Vietnam will supply the Soviet Union with rubber, tea, coffee, rice, meat, fruits, vegetables, mineral oil, and light industrial goods. The two sides also agreed to create favorable conditions for various localities, sectors, enterprises, and organizations of Vietnam and the Soviet Union to directly foster cooperation with each other in the exchange of goods beyond the volume under state management.

In 1991, the Soviet Union will continue to provide Vietnam with exchangeable foreign currency-based credit to help the latter continue the building of various important projects—such as the construction of Hoa Binh hydroelectric powerplant, the erection of high-voltage grids, and the improvement of power networks in Hanoi, Haiphong, and Ho Chi Minh City—and a number of other projects.

The Soviet Union will also continue nonrefundable aid to Vietnam for the construction of the Vietnam-USSR friendship hospital, the Russian language department at the Hanoi Pedagogical College of Linguistics, and two bridges on the Hanoi-Haiphong highway.

The standing committee of the Council of Ministers entrusted various responsible ministries and sectors with the task of enforcing necessary measures to ensure that all of our country's commitments to the Soviet Union are scrupulously fulfilled and that the delivery of goods to and receiving of commodities, materials, and equipment from the Soviet Union and are satisfactorily carried out.

Commentary on Efforts To End Gulf War

BK0502132391 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] With the escalating hostilities in the Gulf, diplomatic effort has been set up to bring an end to the war. But what were the results of this effort and how to persuade all the sides to decide to end the war? Here is our radio opinion.

As soon as the first gunshot signalled the war in the Gulf, leaders of many countries and international organizations have been trying to seek measures to end the war peacefully. In his meeting with U.S. State Secretary James Baker in Washington in late January, Soviet Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertnykh affirmed that the Soviet Union would do all it can to prevent the war escalation and extension.

Leaders of Malaysia and other countries in Southeast Asia who have been monitoring news from the Gulf also expressed concern about the Gulf crisis. They have taken action to help end the Gulf war. Notably, they urged the UN Security Council to discuss Iraq's losses caused by allied forces. Malaysian diplomats noted that the UN resolution only allowed the use of force to compel Iraq to withdraw its troops from Kuwait, that the air raids within Iraq were excessive to the crime of destroying Baghdad and other cities in that country.

Malaysia was not pleased with the way the U.S. and allied forces carried out the UN resolution. The same attitude has been expressed by many other countries.

In the United States, House Representative Gray said that the U.S. fired live bullets at Saddam Husayn and same ones [as heard] at domestic issues. Over the past few days, diplomatic initiatives have been put forth almost daily for an end to the Gulf crisis. Political circles in all countries, big international organizations, and even all ordinary people have taken action to end the Gulf war. Politicians exchange their views and make proposals in their letters and telephone calls.

Many big international organizations such as the World Interparliament, the African Interparliament agreed to pressure the government of their own countries to find a way to end the war in the Gulf. Ordinary people also have their own action to contribute to ending the war. Peoples of many countries vented anger at the U.S., not at Iraq. They noted that there are many ways to force Iraq to withdraw its troops from Kuwait, that to wage such an awful war against Iraq is not necessary.

In late January, thousands of workers in Morocco went on strike to support Iraq. Similar strikes were held in Dhaka, capital of Bangladesh. Generally speaking, the Arab peoples support President Saddam Husayn in fighting against the United States and Iraqi activities are seen even in France, a U.S. ally.

The recent resignation of French Defense Minister J.P. Chevenement was an act against against the allied strategy in the Gulf war. Observers asserted that this was one of Mr. Norman Schwarzkopf's efforts to end the war peacefully. Under any forms, the efforts are all aimed at ending the Gulf war peacefully.

So far, these efforts have not yet silenced the gunshot in the Gulf but they have been certainly acknowledged.

NHAN DAN on International Relations in 1990

BK3001124991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Article by (Tiem Nhien) in "recent issue" of NHAN DAN: "Vietnam and the World in 1990—A New Step in Development"]

[Text] The year 1990 marked a new step in the development of our country's international relations. By the end of the 1980's and particularly in 1990, the situation in the world and in Southeast Asia had become very complicated. A new tendency emerged, however, especially among the big powers, whereby struggle and peaceful coexistence go hand in hand. In that context, the 12-year-old Cambodian issue entered the final stage toward a political solution.

The Vietnamese Army volunteers completely withdrew from Cambodia in late September 1989. Another factor of paramount significance was the initial success of Vietnam in its renovation, undertaken in light of the resolutions of the Communist Party of Vietnam's Sixth Congress. All these factors have created favorable conditions for a new step in the development of relations between Vietnam and other countries. This can be seen in the following five points:

First, the time-honored friendship among Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia has been strengthened and developed on a new plane in the interest of regional peace and development, and in line with each country's characteristics and requirements in the new stage of their revolution.

The withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Laos and Cambodia has not weakened the national security and defense of the three countries. On the contrary, it shows that Vietnam always respects the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Laos and Cambodia, and that the dispatch of Vietnamese Army volunteers to Laos and Cambodia was to help them assume the tasks of national defense by themselves and to choose the path of development suitable to their national characteristics.

Despite the fact that the three countries are all poor, this is not the main obstacle to cooperation in national development. The governments of the three countries are revising the mechanism and mode of cooperation to make it ever more effective. On the other hand, their trilateral cooperation in no way hinders each country's cooperation with other countries. It is this process of renovation that helps to constantly strengthen the mutual trust among the three countries.

Second, there has been obvious improvement in Vietnam's relations with neighboring countries. Any country with a desire for national security and development should, first of all, maintain good relations with its neighbors. Although Vietnam's relations with its Southeast Asian neighbors and China to the north have not yet completely normalized, they improved markedly last year. Most outstanding in Vietnam's relations with the ASEAN countries was its cooperation with Indonesia and Thailand in the settlement of the Cambodian issue and bilateral questions.

Meanwhile, relations with China are in the process of advancing toward normalization. Leaders of the two countries met and assured each other of their desire to normalize bilateral relations. Naturally, this matter will take time, because a wound that was left to fester for many years cannot be healed in a few motnhs. Nevertheless, as Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh put it, that day is not far away.

Third, there are the positive and important changes in Vietnam's relations with both Western and Northern European countries—the first developed capitalist countries to have effected a breakthrough in establishing comprehensive relations with Vietnam, especially in the domain of economic, scientific, and technical aid.

After a period of interruption due to the Cambodian issue, as soon as Vietnam withdrew its troops from Cambodia, these Western and Northern European countries took the initiative in resuming their development aid to and stepping up their cooperation with Vietnam without waiting for a solution in Cambodia.

The exchange of visits between delegations of Vietnam and Western and Northern European countries led to the signing of a series of economic and cultural agreements. Vietnam established joint commissions for cooperation with France, the Federal Republic of Germany, and Italy. Meanwhile, Sweden and Finland continue their annual aid to Vietnam and Germany has begun development aid for our country, though still at a modest level. Britain, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, the Netherlands, and Switzerland have also step by step reestablished their economic and trade relations with Vietnam.

Another outstanding feature in the relations between Vietnam and the Western and Northern European countries was the decision by the EEC to establish diplomatic relations with Vietnam. This created favorable conditions for our country to develop economic cooperation with a regional organization having the strongest economic, scientific, and technological potentials in the world at present.

Along with improving relations with the EEC, Vietnam is in the process of fostering its cooperation with Australia and sharpening its relations with Japan.

The normalization of U.S.-Vietnamese relations remains a complicated and difficult process. However, signs of improvement also appeared last year. Five rounds of U.S.-Vietnamese negotiations, including one at the foreign ministerial level, took place within five and a half months. Notably, American public opinion, from Congress to mass organizations and business and press circles, has been urging the U.S. Government to reestablish normal relations with Vietnam at an early date in the interest of the United States itself.

No doubt, the present status of U.S.-Vietnamese relations depends entirely on whether or not the U.S. Government is determined to look to the future.

Fourth, in 1990 some policies were adopted by Vietnam to effectively solve humanitarian problems such as the voluntary repatriation of refugees, the settlement of the MIA and other humanitarian issues with the United States, as well as its correct attitude toward some major international issues, including the present Gulf crisis. This attitude has been welcomed by the countries concerned and the world community.

Fifth, there have been new developments in the relations between Vietnam and its allies and traditional friends. Although the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and friends of Vietnam are facing crises or difficulties in political and economic life, the friendly relations between Vietnam and its allies and traditional friends have not been weakened.

Naturally, there are many difficulties in economic cooperation due to two reasons. First, faced with numerous economic difficulties, these countries are in need of foreign assistance. Second, like Vietnam, these countries are in the process of changing their methods of work and cooperation. However, in the long run, prospects for cooperation are great.

At present, more than half of Vietnam's export earnings come from these traditional markets. Moreover, the major investment projects of foreign countries in Vietnam are, in fact, those belonging to the Soviet Union and other traditional friendly countries. Therefore, the present difficulties are only temporary. To reduce difficulties, both sides are in the process of negotiation to seek appropriate modes of cooperation and transaction for the transitional period.

It can also be said that the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and India have an exceptional place in the former's relations with its traditional friends.

Bui Phan Ky on Seventh Party Congress Documents

BK0502143591 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 22 Jan 91 p 1

[From the "Views Contributed on the Seventh Party Congress Draft Documents" column by Professor Bui Phan Ky]

[Text] For quite a long time, a number of our economic policies and standpoints bore the imprint of subjectivism and reflected the belief that the credit for all achievements must be given to higher echelons and outsiders instead of to the people and typical local models. Upon hearing honest people begin their statement with the popular expression "thanks to the party and the state," we believed that it was a token of appreciation and gratitude. Upon second thought, we were shocked by the irrationality of such an argument because it would run counter to objective economic rationale if we maintain that achievements, endeavors and initiatives, and lifestyles as well as living standards must all be attributed to and endorsed or set by the party and the state. Given such circumstances, the masses would act as beneficiaries, observers, or commentators and the principal characters would become outsiders having no historic role to play. Likewise, the most dynamic components of the production force would assume a negative role and worse still, would submit themselves to the will of the leadership and management mechanisms. Faced with a growing demand for better living conditions, the local norms have less power of persuasion than the international standards followed by other countries in the region. Due to population increase and foreign aid reductions, less progress has been made and more social problems have developed. Meanwhile, people have always put the blame on the party and the state.

As far as the journey to socialism is concerned, the party acts as the pilot and the state as the helmsman whereas the chief engineer and crewmen must comprise large numbers of the people who generate all kinds of goods and who achieve increasingly higher labor productivity, which is an indication of the superiority of one production method over the other. As far as our socialist modality is concerned, the party has at times assumed the roles of pilot, helmsman, crewmen, and chief engineer whereas the state has become an assistant and the people have been treated almost as passengers whose size has grown larger and larger with each passing day. Such kind of management pattern has inevitably created many problems and has prevented the craft from operating at full steam.

The time has come for everyone to go back to where he/she belongs.

The vast majority of the people and the key elements of the work force must serve as chief engineers and crewmen so that they all can devote their dynamism and resourcefulness to promoting socioeconomic development.

The time has come for the people to realize the need to devote all their efforts and talents to enriching themselves through honest means and within the bounds of law and to understand that no restrictions will be imposed on their ownership right and living standards. Measures must be taken to eliminate the entrenched prejudices that it is unhealthy to get rich and that since the rich belong to the "upper class" and alienate themselves from the laboring people, they do not enjoy the confidence of the party and the state... Socialism is characterized first of all by a bountiful life for the people and not by an across-the-board subsidization system.

The citizens' well-being cannot be secured by local party committee echelons and administrative organs but by all households and production establishments involved.

Economic experts were right to carefully consider the possibility of increasing the per capita Gross National Product [GNP] in the next 10 years by 50 percent. Nevertheless, ours is not a steady economy to guarantee a progressive growth rate. There are many indications that the following options remain:

1. Let us continue to proceed slowly, have the fundamental elements of the production force assume a passive role, and replace the chief engineer with the pilot and helmsman. The end result is that the economic development will continue to mark time and that it will be difficult even for us to increase the GNP by 50 percent.

2. Let us put the craft into the right orbit and boldly shift the socioeconomic development to the people with the party assuming the pilot's role and the state legislature being at the helm. In this way, there will exist conditions for developing a rich and powerful country and for establishing a modern society where the laboring people enjoy the right to mastership; human compassion, cultural value, and sense of discipline prevail over oppression and injustice; and everyone can enjoy freedom, happiness, and a bountiful life. Such a move will certainly put the craft on the right track and help it to operate at full steam because all the elements previously left out have now been fully accounted for.

Second Military Region Party Committee Meets

BK0102115591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] From 17 to 19 January, the party Standing Committee and the 2d Military Region Headquarters held a politico-military conference to summarize the implementation of military and national defense duties in the past five years from 1986 to 1990, and set forth the military and national defense guidelines and tasks for the next five years, especially the major tasks for 1991.

Cadres attending the conference scrupulously made many suggestions, correctly assessed the achievements, outstanding problems, and causes thereof in the military and national defense tasks over the past five years, and clearly determined the military and national defense guidelines and tasks for the next five years.

The suggestions made at the conference reflected a high degree of unanimity with the resolution of the Standing Committee of the military region's Party Committee which assessed that over the past five years, the armed forces of the 2d Military Region have remained united and confident, and have proved to be absolutely faithful to the party, the people, and the Socialist Vietnam Fatherland.

Units have remained constantly vigilant and together with all party committee echelons, the local administrations and the people of all nationalities have maintained their combat readiness to fight victoriously and firmly in defense of the fatherland border. They have built and enhanced the general quality of all armed forces in the military region, met the requirements of national defense, and positively contributed to assuring political security, social order, and safety in their station areas.

Authorities of provinces in the military region have screened and consolidated more than 75 percent of the militia and self-defense forces' primary units and have established a national defense fund with the people's voluntary contributions, implementing the motto of discussion, election, and nourishment by the people. As a result, good militia and self-defense forces have been organized on a wide scale in the military region and have been annually trained in accordance with the prescribed programs.

The Party Committees of the military region and provinces have provided leadership for the implementation of the Political Bureau resolution on building provinces into zones of firm and strong defense. Thus far, all provinces and some districts have formulated their defense plans and conducted drills to successfully draw upon experience. The new leadership mechanism prescribed by the party Central Committee Secretariat directive has been established in all localities to bring into play its effectiveness in the national defense tasks of provinces, villages, and hamlets.

With a view to continually building strong and firm armed forces in the military region, cadres reached a high degree of unanimity with the military and national defense guidelines and tasks for the next five years which are to optimally promote independence, sovereignty, and self-reliance; strenuously enhance the quality of the military region's armed forces; and cooperate with the people countrywide to defend the socialist regime in our country, the party, and the fatherland's independence, sovereignty, security and territorial integrity.

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN on Party's Goal

BK0402135591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 3 Feb 91

[From the press review for 3 February]

[Text] The paper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN today carries on page 1 an editorial entitled: "An Abundant and Happy Life for the People—the Party's Goal and the People's Cause." After highlighting the great achievements recorded by our party and people over the past 61 years, as well as the difficulties and obstacles in the process of building socialism in our country, the editorial says:

Gradually paying intense and special attention to the people's livelihood under the present situation must be considered as a political responsibility and a matter of special concern for the leadership at all echelons. The party's goal of struggle does not always have anything to do with the future but manifests itself strikingly each day in all of its viewpoints and policies. This also means manifesting the idea that the people are the root and revolution as the cause of the entire people.

Since we have advanced one step in our process of renovation, we must continue this process vigorously and comprehensively. We must also revamp our party and enhance its militancy and leading role to truly make it the political vanguard unit of our entire society.

Nguyen Van Linh Visits Ba Son Naval Shipyard

BK0602112391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] On 2 February, during the 61st founding anniversary of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Year of the Goat celebration, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the party Central Committee, visited Ba Son naval shipyard, where the first workers movement was established in Sai Gon Gia Dinh before the party was formed and in which a great deal of change has taken place within the framework of the renovation line.

Accompanying the general secretary was Vice Admiral Hoang Huu Thai, acting commander of the Naval Force. On the occasion of visiting the shipyard last year, the general secretary promised the cadres and workers there that if the shipyard performed well in the subsequent year he would visit again. Returning exactly one year later, the general secretary was very glad to see the shipyard had made respectable changes.

Among the important results of the past year, the shipyard not only signed and carried out 254 contracts valued at 2.8 times more than in 1989 but it also made fundamental changes in management and in production arrangements.

In recent years, from its position as a national defense enterprise operating under a subsidy system, manufacturing by orders, and having the cadres' and workers' income dependent on the results of their labor, the Ba Son Naval Shipyard has gradually combined the two main duties of national defense and economic performance.

In 1990, the shipyard concentrated on ensuring independence in production and in the management of the grassroots economic units as the goods production bodies. Every unit as well as every worker is responsible for the results of his or her own labor. If any unit cannot live up to this tough challenge, it must face liquidation or bankruptcy. Through the activities of the production units, the management system and specialized departments were also restructured to trim down the indirect labor force from 24 or more to under 10.

Consequently, labor productivity increased by 25 percent compared to 1989, fixed expenses were reduced greatly, and the time needed to repair a 15,000-tonne ship was cut from one month to 10 days. Therefore, the enterprise gained a good reputation from its customers. The excess labor that resulted during the restructuring process was reassigned into production units and into general service units. Everyone has a secure position and the average income of a cadre or worker has reached 200,000 dong per month.

As of this new year, no Ba Son shipyard workers live in houses with leaky roofs. Recently, 80 highly skilled workers who had left their jobs due to hardship have returned to the enterprise.

Vice Admiral Hoang Huu Thai and Director Ngo Lan Minh took the general secretary to see the production sections of the shipyard, the wharves, and to a military ship which was built and totally equipped by the shipyard.

The general secretary hailed the shipyard's management for fittingly inculcating the right of independence in every production unit and in every worker, for creating the motive to liberate the labor force, and for gaining high efficiency in the duties of economic performance and national defense. He also welcomed the enterprise's good results in looking after the lives of the workers and expressed concern over some difficulties and obstacles preventing the enterprise from exploiting its full potential.

In a friendly talk to nearly 100 main cadres of the shipyard, the general secretary praised the Ba Son shipyard for correctly implementing the party Military Central Committee's policy that national defense units must also perform economic tasks and in performing economic tasks they serve national defense.

He said: While many other enterprises remain slow in their work on the renovation path, the Ba Son naval shipyard has quickly terminated the old structure and has brought the right of autonomy to the enterprise and the right of mastery to the workers. You have changed the old ways of thinking quickly and that shows you are revolutionary workers, deserving to be an enterprise where the respected revolutionary Ton Duc Thang used to work.

The general secretary took note of petitions from the enterprise's management to instruct responsible organizations and to obtain the consideration of the Ministry of National Defense especially to resolve financial work difficulties and the issue of investing in the renewal of equipment.

He advised that renovation is a revolution, therefore it must be carried out constantly and completely, resulting in subsequent difficulties and obstacles on the renovation path. He reminded the Ba Son cadres and workers to continue developing the tradition of revolutionary struggle. He urged them to do a better job at renovation so they can contribute their part to helping the country through the backward and poverty-stricken situation.

On the new year, the general secretary wished all the cadres and workers of Ba Son naval shipyard good health, progress, and forward movement on the renovation path.

New War Veterans Journal Previewed

BK0202120191 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Dear comrades and friends: Our country has just published a new journal: The CUU CHIEN BINH VIETNAM [VIETNAMESE WAR VETERANS]. Before concluding this radio program, we would like to introduce to you, listeners and all members of the armed forces, both old and new, the contents of the first issue of this journal to give you a general idea about it:

The first issue of the CUU CHIEN BINH VIETNAM journal has made its debut. It was widely published on 30 January 1991. The journal has 32 pages with its cover printed in four colors.

In its foreword, the journal affirms that it serves as the voice of war veterans and as a press organ of the Vietnamese War Veterans Association. The journal hopes to serve as a faithful voice to disseminate information and advice among the comrades-in-arms; a loving and caring voice to encourage the people; a voice of solidarity and friendship with friends around the world; a voice of determination to build and defend the socialist Vietnamese fatherland and to fight all those hostile forces attempting to discard socialism and undermine the party, the state, and the all-people solidarity bloc; and a voice of determination to expose the corrupt and criminal. The CUU CHIEN BINH VIETNAM is striving to do all it can to disseminate the policies and lines of the party and state as well as the advocacies and plans of the Vietnamese War Veterans Association to all war veterans and listeners, circulate experiences on activities of the association, convey to those party and state organs concerned the aspirations and petitions of war veterans and the people about the renovation undertaking and about various benefit policies.

On its front cover, the journal carries a picture showing Uncle Ho talking to cadres and combatants with his advice: As various kings of the Hung dynasty had painstakingly founded this country, we should strive to preserve it.

Page three carries the views of some war veterans on the draft documents of the coming party congress. They suggested that the platform for socialist construction during the transitional period clearly note that it is designed for use during a new revolutionary stage of our country. On the same page, there is an article by Phan Lang on anticorruption.

A report by Hong Ky describes the life of (Phan Dinh Chinh), an 80-year-old war veteran who has continued to participate in community activities after his retirement.

The first issue of CUU CHIEN BINH VIETNAM also carries an interview granted by Tran Can, deputy state general inspector, to the Vietnamese War Veterans Association, in which he called for members of the association to participate in the people's control organizations at various levels and in the anticorruption and antismuggling struggle.

In the "General Situation" column, the journal calls on war veterans to write to the journal to provide it with information such as the burial sites of comrades and whether they are still keeping any effects of their dead comrades. Whoever wants to find the graves of their beloved ones can also write to the journal for help.

In this first issue, the journal runs a notice inviting the family or relatives of Mr. Dang Van Lua, a fallen hero who was killed in 1978, to contact the journal's publishing office at 34 Ly Nam De, Hanoi, to retrieve a photograph of Dang Van Lua taken prior to his departure for a battle. Another notice invites the family of Ho Quang Voc, a fallen hero, in Quang Ninh to come to the journal's publishing office to retrieve a photograph and a tape with the voice of Comrade Ho Quang Voc recounting an attack on the Nha Be Pol depot in 1973.

In the "Back to a Normal Life" column, there are stories about Comrade Le Nguyen Tiep earning an annual income of some 3 million dong from the sale of his farm products;

about Mrs. Muoi Man of Kien Giang posing as a man to join the anti-French army 40 years ago; about the life of Comrade Hoang Cam, now 70 years old, who is well-known for his New Year victory at Dien Bien Phu; about hero Tran Minh Kham, a former truck driver on Route 559 having to clear 20 graves or so to build a house to spend the last days of his life. This story once again shows the determined struggles of a hero when facing harsh reality.

In the two columns of "Forefathers' Echo" and "Ponder on Wordly Matters," the journal covers the two issues of fairness and justice, laws and morals. Our ancestors used to teach that if the mirror of justice is not clear—justice without strength, and strength without justice—it will lead to terrible disasters.

The journal also recalled the case of (?dispute) of Do Hanh in Hanoi to remind that our laws are socialist. Our laws imply socialist morals. All trials based only on laws and not on morals are against natural law.

In everyday life, there is an order from a colonel who served in the army for 40 years [passage indistinct] given to his children. How difficult it is! The journal also settles the worries of many retired officers who wonder whether or not they can draw the seniority allowance of 25 percent or more as authorized recently.

On the tasks of the association, the journal's first issue gave a timely report on a seminar on the Vietnam War organized in the United States and attended by Senior General Tran Van Tra, vice chairman of the Vietnam War Veterans Association.

The journal carries an article by Comrade Pham The Duyet, secretary of the Hanoi party committee, and Comrade Nguyen Vinh Nghiep, chairman of the Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee, who assessed the association's activities in all localities countrywide.

The war veterans and [words indistinct] can also find such interesting stories in other columns of the journal as "An Anti-Aging Medicine, Successfully Defending a Doctoral Thesis at the Age of 80," a story about an 80-year old bachelor who won a prize for the most romantic love letter in the world in 1990.

Scientific Cooperation Meeting With Laos Held

BK0202025391 Hanoi VNA in English 1512 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 1—The sixth session of the Vietnam-Laos Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation was held here on January 23-31.

The Vietnamese delegation to the session was led by Prof. Dang Huu, chairman of the State Committee for Science, and the Lao delegation by Prof. Souli Nanthavong, minister of sciences and technology.

The two sides reviewed the implementation of the two countries' cooperation plan in 1990 and mapped out a cooperation plan for this year.

The Lao guests visited several scientific and production establishments in the central provinces of Thanh Hoa, Nghe Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Thua Thien-hue.

Australian Envoy Comments on Bilateral Relations

BK2601095891 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 25 Jan 91

[Statement by Graham Richard Alliband, Australian ambassador to Vietnam, on the occasion of Australia's National Day; date not given—recorded in Vietnamese]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Australia is actively pursuing diplomatic efforts to find a complete political solution for Cambodia and to speed up the formation of a new economic cooperation organization for the Pacific-Asian region called (Patec).

In particular, Australia was and is actively speeding up the improvement of relations between the two countries. In the last few years, Australia has given humanitarian aid to Vietnam through UN organizations and Australian Government agencies. Australia is also eager to form closer economic relations. In June of last year, Australia and Vietnam signed a bilateral agreement on economic and commercial cooperation. Australian companies have become more active in investing in Vietnam. So far, Australia's most prominent investments in Vietnam are from the Satellite Communication Company, off-shore oil exploitation, and hotel development.

Australia is also seeking investment opportunities in other fields where Australia has more experience and technology such as mineral prospecting, agricultural product processing, grass-roots organization development, and banking.

On human relations, I am glad to see relationships developing quickly and [words indistinct]. In summation, the relationship between Australia and Vietnam is developing positively and we can see bright prospects for the two countries' cooperation.

Lastly, the Year of the Goat is coming; I wish you a happy and prosperous new year. Thank you.

UN Official Comments on Vietnamese Refugees

BK2701085891 Hanoi VNA in English 0723 GMT 27 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 25—"I've known of no case of discrimination after visiting about 500 families of Vietnamese returnees," said Goran Rosen, an official in charge of repatriation of the Hanoi-based Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [HCR].

In an exclusive interview with the weekly 'DAI DOAN KET' (GREAT UNITY) of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, he further observed that all the families returning from refugeee camps in Hong Kong and some Southeast Asian countries had met no difficulty in re-integration.

"I heard of no complaints about any problens caused to them by the Vietnamese Government or local administration. Most of the returnees have resumed their old jobs. Their children have been readmitted to their former schools," he said.

Goran Rosen added that with HCR assistance, some places in Haiphong Port City and Quang Ninh Province have opened free job-training centres for young unemployed returnees.

Vo Nguyen Giap Attends Ho Chi Minh Day in India

BK0602100691 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] On the occasion of his recent visit to India, General Vo Nguyen Giap, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, attended the celebration of President Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary in that country. This morning—5 February—at the Ho Chi Minh city opera house, the city Fatherland Front Committee gave a lecture under the theme "India Commemorates President Ho Chi Minh's Birth Centenary."

Attending the lecture were hundreds of representatives, including those from the city party committee, people's council, and people's committee as well as from among revolutionary and war veterans, personalities, and intellectuals in the city. Also present was the general consul of the Republic of India in Ho Chi Minh City.

General Vo Nguyen Giap recalled many touching and thoughtful events concerning the Vietnam-India friendship and the respect of the Indian people and state for Vietnam and President Ho Chi Minh, which have taken place during the year of commemoration of the late president's birth centenary in India.

Concluding the lecture, General Vo Nguyen Giap said that despite the continual changes in the world, President Ho Chi Minh's concepts will live forever.

Leaders Send Greetings to Tanzanian Counterparts

BK2701091591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] On 25 January, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi and Minister of Foreign Affairs Nguyen Co Thach sent greetings to Mr. John Malecela and Mr. Ahmad Hasan Diria on their appointments as prime minister and minister of foreign affairs and international relations respectively of the United Republic of Tanzania.

Australia

Hawke Discusses Gulf War, Papua New Guinea

BK0602104491 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 6 Feb 91

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] The Australian prime minister, Bob Hawke, has rejected criticism that Australia's approach to the Gulf War shows it is more committed to America and the West than to the Asia-Pacific region. Mr. Hawke was responding to claims Australia failed to consult its neighbors adequately, especially Muslim nations, before sending warships to the American-led alliance in the Gulf. He was speaking at a news conference in Canberra from where Richard Andrews reports:

[Begin recording] [Andrews] Amidst growing concern in Southeast Asia about the conduct of the Gulf War, there has also been criticism of Australia's ready involvement without so-called proper regional consultation. Unlike Australia, Indonesia and Malaysia declined requests for military support and a number of critics have said Australia's approach demonstrates they have been paying a mere lip service to its regional commitment. However, Prime Minister Hawke has dismissed this view as nonsense.

[Hawke] If you look at the writing of the United Nations, firstly within the General Assembly where 104 nations condemned the action of Iraq and then the decision of the Security Council, these were decisions which were not able to be divided up, classified in geographical or regional terms. Australia was part of a very broad international consensus of condemnation and of action. Secondly, one just has to look at the facts of Australia's involvement with the region over the period of my government. That is what I am responsible for and we have transformed what had previously been an era of lip service to that of commitment to the region. They were facts whether you look bilaterally in regard to Indonesia—our (?near) neighbors, or whether you look in terms of the way in which from November 1983 I began the mobilization of countries in the region to act together within the Uraguay round. I started that in November 1983 in Bangkok. We then had the initiative in regard to APEC [Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation] which was our initiative and which has been welcomed (?by) nations in the region. You have the recognition of the major role taken by Australia in the attempt to resolve the tragic issues of Cambodia. So, whether you look at the (?sign) bilateral terms or [words indistinct] terms, such an observation manifests in itself.

[Andrews] The prime minister emphasized Australia's regional commitment in response to a question about last month's Honiara Peace Accord for Papua New Guinea's troubled Bougainville Island. The agreement proposes a multinational supervisory force including Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, and other Pacific Commonwealth nations.

Mr. Hawke said Australia is already preparing itself to restore the island to normal, but Canberra still needs reassurance the peace treaty is fully supported by both the Papau New Guinea Government and the pro-independence forces. Realistically, we want to be satisfied that we are going to move from the statement of 23 January into a position or the creation of a platform from which a real change can take place. There will need to be a clear position of the Government of Papua New Guinea—that the government is unequivocally committed to the process. I think that is what is going to emerge although we know that in the early stages there did seem to be some differences of opinion. On the other hand, we want to be very sure that at the Bougainville end there is an acceptance of the declaration and the process that is outlined in the declaration because you will appreciate that Ona, Francis Ona, for instance, is not a signatory to the declaration. So we want to be sure there is an acceptance at that end. But we are moving on the basis that these things will happen. We are already considering what we may be able to do by way of interim assistance, that comes into three catagories. We are looking at whether we can assist in the restoration of telecommunications links and other communications links. We are looking at how Australian nongovernment organizations might be able to assist with providing medical relief on Bougainville. And thirdly, we are looking at providing assistance to actually undertake the estimates of what assistance is going to be required to restore Bougainville to normal operations. [end recording]

Hawke: Response to Gulf War 'Proportionate'

BK0602092691 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Feb 91

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Hawke, says it would have been easy to commit a larger force to the Gulf war in addition to the existing three naval vessels if Australia had simply wanted glory. Mr. Hawke was answering reporters' questions in Canberra about opinion polls showing Australian majority support for his government's existing commitment to the American-led alliance. According to the prime minister, Australia is playing its proper part in the Gulf conflict.

[Begin Hawke recording] We could have sent planes, we could have sent more ships, we could have sent ground troops. But I have said from the beginning, as you will recall, that the response that we have made is proportionate and effective—those were the descriptions I have given—and I do not think we would have served Australian interests any more by thumping our chests and saying: well, look we have provided planes and troops and [word indistinct] ships. No one has questioned the relevance, the effectiveness and the proportionality of what we have done. [End recording]

Hawke's Popularity, Support for War Increasing

BK0602054891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0357 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Sydney, Feb 6 (AFP)—Like other Western leaders, Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke has benefited from the Gulf war, his electoral support soaring 15 points to 50 per cent since fighting started, according to a poll published Wednesday. Although the Morgan Gallup Poll showed his Labor government still trails the conservative opposition, it also put Mr. Hawke back in front of opposition leader John Hewson as preferred prime minister for the first time since October.

The poll reflects overseas research showing overwhelming support for the handling of the war by U.S. President George Bush and Britain's Prime Minister John Major. Labor sources say the poll has also virtually ended, for the time being at least, what appeared only a few weeks ago to be an emerging challenge to Mr. Hawke's leadership by his deputy and heir apparent Paul Keating.

Earlier this week, following a meeting with Mr. Hawke, Mr. Keating admitted that his ambition to become prime minister before the next election now looked unrealisable. After publication of the latest poll, Mr. Keating said in a televised interview that he had been told by the prime minister "that he intended to go on."

"I said to him: 'Well, that's okay because I would never challenge you anyway' and he understood that," Mr. Keating said. Mr. Keating also rejected suggestions that he may quit politics because his leadership ambitions have been frustrated, saying he intended to stay in politics to see the federal government's economic plans through. "I'm 47 not 74. I've still got a few kicks left in me and you know, I enjoy the job; this is a job of substance about serious things and I enjoy it," Mr. Keating said.

The poll, which surveyed 2,085 voters, was conducted on the two weekends after the war started on January 17. It showed support for the government surged by four percentage points to 36 per cent, although it would still clearly have lost an election held at that time. However, Labor leaders say they expect to be behind in the polls in the middle of a recession which they forecast will be over and economic recovery well under way before the next election.

Support for the conservative coalition parties was shown to be down one point to 48 per cent with the Democrats Party (which opposes the war) unchanged at nine per cent. Of those polled, 46 per cent said Mr. Hawke would make a better prime minister (up six percentage points), and 39 per cent (down five points) said Mr. Hewson.

Pollster Gary Morgan said Wednesday there was no doubt the result could be attributed to Mr. Hawke's handling of Australia's involvement in the war. Recent polls have also shown an overwhelming majority of Australians support military action against Iraq and the Australian Government's decision to commit servicemen to the Gulf. A poll published Tuesday put that support at 75 per cent with 18 per cent opposed.

An international Gallup poll conducted in 38 countries and also published Wednesday showed that most people in 32 countries thought there was some chance of a world war in 10 years. Australia was fourth behind Ireland, Britain and Costa Rica as the most pessimistic while South Korea, the Soviet Union, Hungary and Greece were the least concerned.

Government To Relax S. Africa Visa Restrictions

BK0602114691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0929 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Canberra, Feb 6 (AFP)—In an apparent early step to improving relations with South Africa, Australia is to relax tough and time-consuming visa restrictions on South Africans visiting here. The move, confirmed by government sources Wednesday, comes after five years during which South Africans wanting visitor or business visas have had to have applications processed through the Australian High Commission (embassy) in London.

This was because of an Australian ban on consular facilities at its embassy in South Africa as part of sanctions against the apartheid system of racial segregation. The ban meant inconvenience and delays of up to six months in getting visas approved.

The South African Ambassador to Australia David Tothill said the issue had been a major irritant in bilateral relations. "If this change does come to fruition, I will be most pleased," he said. Meanwhile, Australian Foreign Affairs Minister Gareth Evans said he had sent to fellow commonwealth foreign ministers an Australian proposal for a phased reduction in sporting, economic and other sanctions. This was in response to South Africa's announcement last week that it would scrap the legal framework of apartheid. "It recognised the need to maintain significant sanctions pressure until such time as irreversible intentions to change the apartheid system have been translated into irreversible achievements," Mr. Evans said. He added that the first sanction would be eased in the areas of people to people relations.

A meeting of the commonwealth foreign ministers was Wednesday confirmed for London on February 16 and Mr. Evans hopes to achieve a consensus on his proposal. Meanwhile, South Africa Foreign Minister Pik Botha said his country had dropped its recent request for Australia to cut the size of its diplomatic representation in South Africa.

The South Africans had asked Australia to reduce its number of diplomats by six in the wake of its decision last year to downgrade the size of the South African Embassy in Australia.